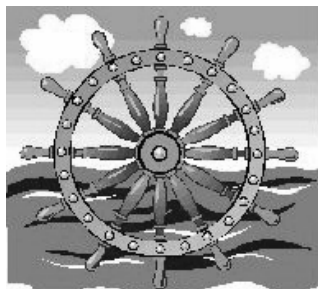


## STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT



### Steering Committee

**Tom Orsi, Chair**  
**Jane Allen**  
**Francis Dwyer**  
**Martha Dwyer**  
**Arlene Gardiner**  
**John Gibbons**  
**Elizabeth McGrath**  
**Walter Pannone**  
**Raymond Vallee**

*Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you especially for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and hold the promise for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight. Be present with us as we work together: make us responsive to your will and give to us a healthy pride in all we do that we may be good stewards of all things entrusted to us. May the prayers of our patron Bernard help us to keep in mind the wise counsel given long ago "whoever would climb to a lofty height must go by steps, not leaps."*

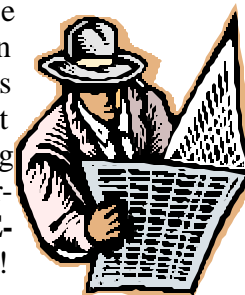
*We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

### **DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU READ!**

*(except, of course what you read in this insert!)*

In last Sunday's Providence Journal, an article on the changes going on at Prout High School included a statement credited to the Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Brother William Dygert, that "the Diocese plans to build a new elementary school within two years in affiliation with St. Bernard's Church in Wickford." In this week's bulletin, Father Dennis expresses his surprise that supposedly such "plans" have been made. The Steering Committee and the School Subcommittee were equally surprised to read that decisions had been made because **NO DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE** by St. Bernard Parish!!! No one in the Parish has signed any contracts to build or design anything! The Diocese has no desire to build a school on its own - without the backing of a parish. Since they don't want to build a school without us, and we haven't made any final decision on whether or not to build a school, it is rather obvious that **no "plans"** have been made yet.



For 28 weeks during the past 8 months, the Steering Committee has tried to keep the Parish informed of what is going on in the Master Planning Process. Once a decision on whether or not to build a school has been made, it will be in this insert on the very next Sunday, long before it appears in the Providence Journal.

So many things continue to change from week to week! Just this past week the Steering Committee received new cost estimates from the architects which required the school subcommittee to amend its budget estimates for a new school. The subcommittee meets again on Thursday, February 5th to review the final school model, the latest budget estimates and the plans for the area survey by the Meitler Group. Please stay tuned for further developments.

### **ST. BERNARD PARISH MASTER PLAN**

In May of last year, the Parish hired the architectural firm of Durkee, Brown, Viveiros and Werenfels to help us create a Master Plan for the use of the Davis Property. A Master Plan is a road map for programming needs associated with grounds and facilities. It is based on the long-term planning goals of St. Bernard's as established in the Parish Strategic Plan.

A Parish Community Forum will be held on **Sunday, February 29, 2004 at 11AM in the Parish Center** to review the completed Master Plan for the Davis Property and our Parish. Please plan to join us.