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## STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

### FULL SPEED AHEAD!



*"Full Speed Ahead"*

Steering Committee

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

***We're Back!*** And we've got great news! Last summer we weren't sure how we were going to proceed since we had not raised as much money as we expected, we didn't want to borrow as much as we originally planned and the costs of the project had increased! What to do?? ... **BUILD**—in phases!! As you may have read in a letter from Fr. Dennis we are moving full speed ahead with Phase 1 of the project - build our new church at the Davis property! Our ground breaking is scheduled for this Fall! More information in the next few weeks on the building and the fund raising. Get ready!!

### OUR CAMPAIGN SPOKESPERSON!

Now that we are moving ahead, who better than Jim Murphy, a longtime parishioner and a true believer in the project to lead the way! An attorney by profession, Jim will be an advocate for the new St. Bernard's campus just as he is for his clients! So watch out!! Jim, his wife Susan and their family have seen our parish grow in size over the years. They realize that a new campus will help us grow as a community. A new campus



will give us a gathering space to worship with enough room for our music ministry, a baptistry and 550 of our fellow parishioners - all without the dangers of crossing Route 1! At Mass last week, Jim eloquently spoke of a mosaic floor dating back to 250 A.D. that had tiles with fish on them—an early symbol of Christ. As Jim said, even this ancient floor supports our vision of the church as a community of worshippers.



### THE FISH SYMBOL

The symbol of the fish – The Greek word for fish is ICTHUS. The letters are the first letters of the phrase "Jesus Christ Son of God, Savior". It is an acronym in Greek. Also in the gospel account of the multiplication of the loaves a young boy is described as having fish to offer to the people. The reference to the Eucharist in that account is extended to the image of the fish as Christ. So the fish symbol was used when the early church was being persecuted. This was a secret sign scratched on the walls of buildings or drawn on the floor in the sand, to tell people where a Christian meeting was being held. It is still frequently used today.