St. Bernard Church

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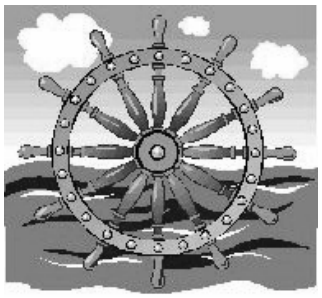
STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT



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

THIS WEEK

On Monday afternoon, members of the Steering Committee and the School Finance Subcommittee met with Diocesan officials and four other Catholic schools up in Providence to discuss details relating to the bond issue that St. Bernard's will participate in *if* we move ahead with the building of the school. When asked by the Diocese if we were ready to commit to the bond, Fr. Dennis and the committee members responded that we could not commit at this time. Before making such a decision, we will need to wait until the results of the Meitler survey provide us with enough evidence that there is the need and desire for a new two-class per grade Catholic school in North Kingstown.

We'll continue with the planning, but we can't make any long term commitments until we know for sure whether or not we can move ahead on the construction. The consensus of the other schools was that they could wait a few months before proceeding with the bond issue, thus allowing St. Bernard's enough time to make an informed decision.

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Join us this **Sunday, February 29, 2004 at 11AM in the Parish Center for a Parish Forum** on the results of the Master Plan for the use of the Davis property site. The architects from Durkee Brown Viveiros and Werenfels will be there with their site drawings and photographs. See where we go from here. Don't listen to all of the rumors flying around. Come hear the facts! Hope to see you on Sunday morning.

CAN YOU HELP?

Do you have experience in writing grants for non-profit organizations, especially Catholic organizations? With the new church construction and the potential new school, plenty of fundraising possibilities lie ahead. Maybe you know someone who knows of foundations who might be interested in such a worthwhile cause? Maybe you know someone who has experience in writing requests for these kinds of grants? There are opportunities out there. We can't let these opportunities pass us by! If you have experience in this area, please call Fr. Dennis or Jane at the Parish Center.