

# St. Bernard Church

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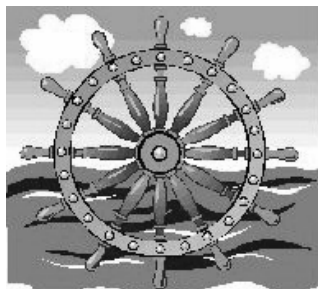
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## STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

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### 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 Tuesday evening, the Steering Committee conducted a series of interviews with the firms vying for the opportunity to serve as the fund raising consultant for the Parish's Capital Campaign to raise money to build the new church. Tony Gwiazdowski, Diocesan Stewardship and Development Director joined us to lend his experience to the interview process. Tony encouraged us to look for a firm that would be a "good fit" for the Parish. Two of the firms were mentioned last week, Ruotolo Associates, which conducted the Parish feasibility study, and CCS Fundraising, which was involved in the diocesan Vision of Hope campaign. The third firm interviewed was Trinity Fund Raising Consultants. Trinity has recently completed work for St. Sebastian's in Providence and St. Pius in Westerly.



All of the firms were professional and seemed quite capable of helping us raise a significant amount of money for our new church. While the Committee is pretty sure which firm we would like to hire, there are a few questions we need to get answers to before any decision can be finalized and a contract can be signed. We'll let you know as soon as all of the steps involved in this selection process have been completed.

### SURVEY & SCHOOL UPDATE

The school survey results are being tabulated and a report is expected in a couple of weeks. Thanks again to everyone who participated!

School subcommittee member Mark Bamford and his wife, Kerri have been busy calling "newly built" catholic schools to set up visits and/or calls to see what we can learn. We would like to know which aspects of their projects these schools believe were successful as well as those tasks they would do differently if they had a second chance. The schools on our list are mainly in New England and New York.

This coming Saturday, the school subcommittee and members of the Steering Committee will meet for a half-day session with the architects to take an in-depth look at school programming. This the first of three session that will occur in May.



Inserts available online at: [http://www.sbcwickford.org/steering\\_committee/index.html](http://www.sbcwickford.org/steering_committee/index.html)