

# St. Bernard Church

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Issue 8

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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

The Steering Committee went on the road twice this past week. In Barrington, we visited the brand new Parish Center at Holy Angels which impressed us with it's use of space. At St. Luke's Parish we saw a small country church transformed into a large 700 seat church with a wonderful sound system.



Holy Angels Parish Center



Our Lady of Mercy's Sacristy



St. Luke's Church

On Tuesday morning we traveled to Cranston to visit Holy Apostles Church. Holy Apostles is the newest parish built in the diocese. The parish complex includes a beautiful stone and gray shingled church, parish center, community life center, rectory and an indoor basketball court. Our next stop Our Lady of Mercy Church in East Greenwich to visit the large and well designed sacristy.



Holy Apostles Church

### Question for Sunday, August 3, 2003

What type of space would you like to see for the baptistery? Have you seen a baptistery placement in another church that you liked?

Please drop your response in the collection baskets or send an email to [steering\\_committee@sbcwickford.org](mailto:steering_committee@sbcwickford.org). Thanks for your response!

*The Steering Committee's e-mail address is:*

*steering\_committee  
@  
sbwickford.org*

*Please make a note of it and keep sending your questions, thoughts and responses.*

*There is still time to respond to questions from prior weeks. Send us an email or drop your response in the collection basket. Answers to all questions posed during the month of July will be summarized in an upcoming issue sometime in August.*

## **The Church Building and the Sacred Rites Celebrated There**

~66~ The rites of baptism, the first of the sacraments of initiation, require a prominent place for celebration. Initiation into the church is entrance into a Eucharistic community united in Jesus. Because the rites of initiation of the Church begin with baptism and are completed by the reception of the Eucharist, the baptismal font and its location reflect the Christian's journey through the waters of baptism to the altar. This integral relationship between the baptismal font and the altar can be demonstrated in a variety of ways, such as placing the font and altar on the same architectural axis,... using the same floor pattern, and using common or similar materials and elements of design.

**From *Built of Living Stones* Guidelines of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops**

## **Coming Up:**

~ Meeting with the principals of Our Lady of Mercy School and Monsignor Clark School.

~ Visits to the St. Columba's Parish Center in Middletown and the Parish center at St. Barnabas Church in Portsmouth which is under construction.

## **Have You Seen the Newspapers Lately?**

In the past few weeks, the work being done by St. Bernard's Parish at the Davis Property and with the Master Plan has been written up in the local newspapers. Copies of the articles from the *Providence Journal* and the *North East Independent* have been reprinted (with permission of course) on the Steering Committee page on the parish website. Just go to [www.sbwickford.org](http://www.sbwickford.org) and then to the Steering Committee tab under "groups" on the left side of the page.

## **Questionnaire Responses Used to Formulate Plans**

During a recent meeting with architect Michael Viveiros and Martha Werenfels from Durkee Brown Viveiros & Werenfels, the information gleaned from the questionnaires and interviews with the members of the various ministries was incorporated into a preliminary draft of space considerations. An in-depth review of the draft was

made in order to determine an estimate of the square footage that would be needed for each building. The draft included estimates for a church, parish hall, rectory and a school. Additional analysis of these estimates will be done to produce a footprint of the facilities and assist with the calculation of the estimated cost of the project.