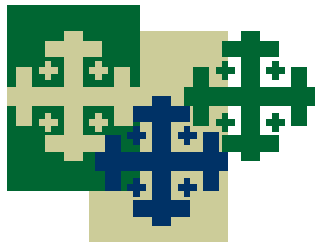


St. Madeleine Sophie Parish

WITH HEARTS
BURNING
WITHIN US:
BUILDING A FAITH
COMMUNITY FOR A NEW
CENTURY

*A Summary of Vision and
Goals*



St. Madeleine Sophie Parish

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Proclaiming Our Goals

September 23, 2001

The future of our parish as a Roman Catholic faith community is ours to shape. We continue to do so in authentic fidelity to the richness of the Church's faith. With the power of the Spirit, the invitation to all, and the participation of many, our yearlong efforts have identified our fundamental values and principles, resulting in a vision for responding boldly and imaginatively to the ministry challenges before us.

Building upon the wonderful traditions, blessings, gifts and talents which the Lord has given to our faith community, since its founding in 1968 and affirming the bounty of success in our life as a parish to date, these goals are now proclaimed as the foundation of a pastoral plan for a faith community for a new century. A product of prayer, debate and consensus, these goals and plans serve as a platform for action.

These goals, though broad, speak of the way we will develop our ministries as the parish moves into a new era. They will inform the vision of the commissions, teams, groups, staff and volunteers who are directly engaged in the ministries and services of the parish, and they will guide the renewal and expansion of our parish facilities. Over the coming months we will develop together the specifics of our pastoral plan which we will celebrate and commit to on the Feast of St. Madeleine Sophie, the weekend of May 25-26, 2002.

May God continue to bless us in this endeavor.

Very Rev. James D. Picton, Pastor



***We are the faith community of
St. Madeleine Sophie Catholic Church,
God's Holy People committed to fol-
lowing Jesus Christ, the Son of God
and Savior of the World***

Inspired to animate this mission, the pastoral leadership has identified three central themes resonant with the desires of this faith community:

***We learn our faith. We live our faith.
We share our faith.***

From these themes flow the initiatives by which we can document our continued development along our journey of faith.

At the same time, the Pastoral Council has acknowledged four constants that will serve as the filters through which all initiatives will be evaluated:

We must continue to do what we do well;

Our successes are many. Any new calls to action must enhance these activities.

We must act as wise stewards of the resources with which we've been blessed;

Our facilities must be well planned and multi-use; our professional and volunteer staff valued and supported; and our financial resources wisely monitored and developed.

We must encourage vocations to active ministry in the church;

We will continue to encourage vocations especially vocations to the ordained priesthood, inviting the placement of newly ordained priests, seminarians, religious and ministry interns into our parish ministries.

We must ensure that the demands of Gospel based social justice and outreach are a priority in all areas of parish life.



The Vision and Goals of St. Madeleine Sophie Parish

WE LEARN OUR FAITH

We will continue to give high priority to faith formation, further strengthening our programs for all children, youth and adults.

GOAL - We will provide more convenient, enhanced and flexible opportunities for faith formation.

GOAL - We will deepen an awareness in the adults of our parish of the need to further their own faith formation.

GOAL - We will enrich the formation component of our youth ministry, valuing its vital role in building community by passing on the teachings and traditions of our faith.

GOAL - We will initiate a full-scale study to engage the parish community in shaping a parish school ministry which is feasible.*

WE LIVE OUR FAITH

We will strive to be a more **welcoming community** by improving the ways in which we are open to people of all cultures, economic levels, special needs, and diverse styles of expressing authentic Catholicism.

GOAL - We will continue to give high priority to life-giving liturgies, celebrations of the sacraments, liturgical music, care for the sick and homebound and outreach to the poor.

* Please see the full text of Vision and Goals document



GOAL - We will address and resolve the issues of access to and within our facilities for people with physical challenges and disabilities.

GOAL - We will expand our gathering spaces, meeting rooms, office spaces and parking areas to provide for our growing community. All buildings used for ministry shall be planned with long-range, multi-purpose capability.

GOAL - We will provide more opportunities for Mass, including possible ways to address the diversity of preferences in worship styles and cultural traditions.

WE SHARE OUR FAITH

We will take new initiatives of **social justice** advocacy and Christian service in the surrounding community to further develop our living example of Gospel values.

GOAL - We will ensure that all ministries and programs integrate some component of outreach, recognizing that social justice is an integral part of the mission of the Church,

GOAL - We will deepen our awareness of the truth that ecumenism and interfaith relations are an essential aspect of our being Catholic by furthering our collaboration with neighboring churches and initiating inter-religious relationships with the Islamic and Jewish communities.



Working Timeline



September 8 and 9, 2001

Proclamation of New Goals to the Parish

September 2001

Formation of a Fund Development Committee, a Building Committee, and a School Study Committee

Fall/Spring 2001-02

Work of the Committees and continuous communication with the Parish in preparation for a Pastoral Plan

May 24 and 25, 2002

Final Implementation Plan presented to the Parish at the Feast of St. Madeleine Sophie

Spring 2002

Beginning of construction for initial projects, including expansion of parking*

Spring 2003

Beginning construction of a new Parish Community Center and related projects*

*Please see full text of Vision and Goals document.