

# The GOOD STEWARD

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For the Members of St. Jude Catholic Church

No. 5

## SUMMER PARISH BRIEFING

*by Fr. Tim Church*

This will be a particularly busy summer for our parish. One might imagine that things slow down over the summer. This is never the case. There is much occurring on many fronts, so here are some notes on various items of interest.

**Item 1:** For those of you who may be new to our parish, summertime is an opportunity for us to do many different things. Our youth take mission trips, and a week of local service. Our younger children attend VBS and try their hand at Creativity Camps designed to build community and involvement among our children. See the enclosed flyer for more details. There is something at St. Jude for all ages!

**Item 2:** It will also be busy on the building front. We are now pushing hard to make money-saving revisions to our plans so that we can press ahead with the project. Breaking ground involves time-consuming reviews by various commissions at the Diocese and work with the city council on zoning and permits. I would like for us to break ground before the end of September. I will keep you up to date on where we are in the process as we go along.

**Item 3:** The bishop has given us a new finance council structure that includes terms of memberships. In the past we have maintained almost the same membership for a decade. Here is the new structure. First, we owe a debt of thanks to those who are "retiring": Don Hill, Tom Riley, and Joe Hochevar. Our new membership includes: John Zelman, Steve Grzywacz, Don Adams, Andrew Tanner, Malcolm Duke, and Gary Piper. These are all voting members. Non-voting members include John Rapier, our parish's legal counsel, Bob Carr, Construction Consultant, Robert Holladay, Staff Director of Finance, Sue Hawthorne, Business Manager, and Rick Allen, Parish Construction Representative.

Among the tasks that our Finance Council must address include revising our budget for the coming fiscal year, supervising the annual audit, supervising the finances related to our new construction, and helping to maintain our parish contributions. The continued expansion of our

program and facilities provide ample opportunity to serve the parish by guiding us and our resources.

**Item 4:** Summer is also the time when catechists come forward to let us know that they are interested in serving our children in their formation with religious education. This is a very positive experience which includes opportunities for the ongoing formation of our catechists. Contact Toni Cechan in the Religious Education office.

**Item 5:** The west transept doors were damaged by wind on May 1st. There may be a new route for your entering the Church. Watch for signs directing you to the new west entrance.

**Item 6:** The bishops of the United States are preparing for their "ad limina" (literally: "to the threshold") visit to the Pope. This is first and foremost a pilgrimage to the tombs of the Apostles Peter and Paul. It is also a visit to report the state of the Diocese.

**Item 7:** Please be encouraged concerning our Career Alliance group. We formed this at the beginning of the recession and have added program pieces as they became available. The support received and the jobs landed have proven the value of this effort. Please be sure to let us know about any job opening that you are aware of by contacting Della Doss at the parish office so we may post them in our online database at [www.ntxcatholiccareers.org](http://www.ntxcatholiccareers.org).

Finally, thank you for your continued support of the parish. Some of you have learned the secret of good stewardship. Our financial sacrifices are turned into the confidence in God's help.

God bless you,



Fr. Tim