

Dear Friends,

In December, all parish households received a letter explaining that Bishop John Kinney has asked us to work with the parishes of Saint Joseph/Waite Park, Saint Michael, Saint Paul, and Saint Peter to ensure the presence of Catholic schools in our area of the Diocese of Saint Cloud. The letter also stated that by February 15, a team would be formed that would make recommendations for our Catholic schools to Bishop Kinney before January 2011 that will enhance collaboration among our five parishes especially in the areas of staffing, facilities, and financial resources.

Father Bernie Gruenes, Father Alan Wielinski and I are pleased to announce the team members. The two representatives from the Church of Saint Joseph will be Mark Gohmann and Susan Sink.

Mark is a lifelong member of the parish and his wife Bonnie joined when they were married in 1972. Mark and Bonnie have two adult children who graduated from the Lab School and live in the St. Cloud area. Mark works with the design and sales of large production equipment systems for manufacturing companies. He has been a long-time usher, a member of the Finance Council for six years (including its chair), and has worked as a volunteer and chair of stands for our 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration.

Susan joined the parish in 2008 when she married parishioner Steve Heymans and moved to St. Joseph. She has lived in Minnesota since 2005, when she spent a year at the Collegeville Institute at Saint John's University. She worked for Liturgical Press for two years and lived in Cold Spring, where she was active at Saint Boniface Church. For three years, she was on the leadership team for the family faith formation program, advising on curriculum and teaching in the program. Before arriving in Minnesota, Susan was a community college professor of English. Susan is the communications director at Saint Benedict's Monastery in St. Joseph, and she also serves as a Eucharistic minister in the parish.

Other members of the team include:

Luverne Feld and Mathew Symalla of the Church of Saint Joseph/Waite Park

David Borgert and Eugene Funk of the Church of Saint Michael

Lynn Kaster and Mark Koch of the Church of Saint Paul

Brenda Markman and Harry Marso of the Church of Saint Peter

The team will have its first meeting before the end of February. At the meeting, the pastors will provide an overview for the process and the team members will receive a blessing. Please keep them in your prayers.

Thank you to all those who helped with last weekend's Ministry Fair and those who attended. Special thanks to Sandy Scholz who coordinated the event and the other committee members Erinn Hawkins, Pat Kutzera, Lisa Martone, and Wayne Paquin. If you haven't done so already, please be sure to review the Ministry Fair booklet that was distributed after the Masses and return your completed Gift Inventory form to the parish office.

Blessings on your week and this Lenten season!

In Christ's peace,  
Fr. Joseph, O.S.B.

