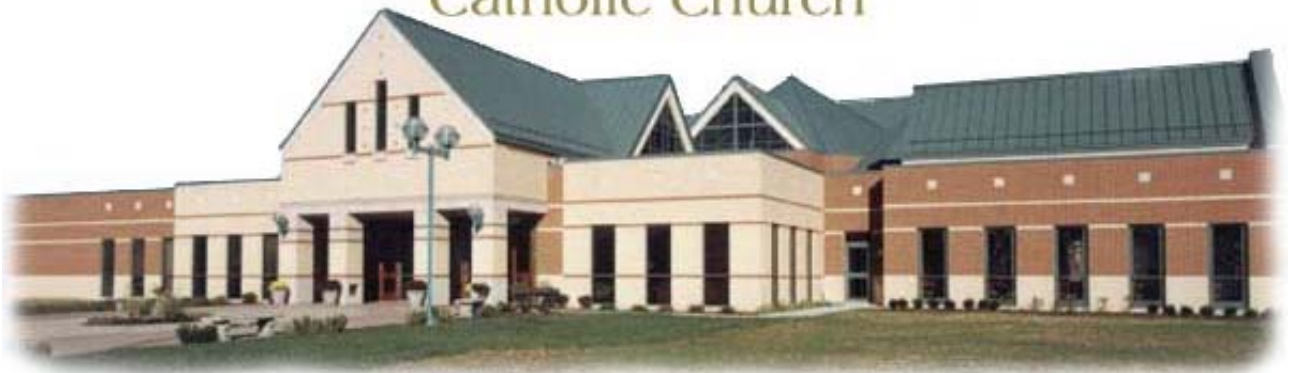


# 20/20 Vision

## **St. John Parish West Chester Long Range Plan**

**December, 2001**

St. John the Evangelist  
Catholic Church



# Mission Statement

We are the Catholic Christian Community of St. John, diverse in age, talent and theology. Our Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure provides opportunities for spiritual and personal growth. We are called to love and serve God through each other, by caring for those within our community and beyond and by creating an environment that promotes Christian growth and faith. As a Christian community, we help individuals and families become more Christ-present through worship, education and service. We are actively committed to reach out selflessly and prayerfully to others. We warmly welcome all who seek to deepen their faith in Jesus Christ.

## St. John Parish Vital Statistics

### Number of Registered Families

Over 2,325

(10 years ago, we had 1,200 families)

# of Ways to Volunteer Time and Talent to our Parish Ministries and Programs

175

### PSR Enrollment

2001-2002

Early Childhood	162
Tues/Wed Gr. 1-8	307
Loreto Gr 1-8	195
Home Study Gr 1-8	46
Loreto Home Study Gr 1-8	30
Vacation Bible Camp	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>815</b>

### Year 2001

(up to 11/7/01):

Baptisms	126
First Eucharist	108
Confirmations	80
Marriages	23
Funerals	24

### Amount of Parish Debt

\$1,938,000

# Goals \*

## Spiritual Goals

High Quality Worship

A physical environment that promotes community and personal reverence

A Safe and welcoming place for people of all ages and stages to explore their relationship with God and with each other

To be a community of prayerful people

To continue to grow as a caring, supportive, energetic, Christian community

(Formulated by Pastoral Council)

## Communication Goals

To have a well informed parish.

To effectively utilize all forms of communication to the parish and larger community.

To have opportunities for interactive communication within and outside the parish.

(Formulated by Pastoral Council)

\*

**As a result of our Parish Listening Session in 1998, areas of need were addressed. The Pastoral Council has been focusing on these areas. Goals in other areas will be developed to become part of the Parish 20/20 Vision Plan.**

## Financial Goals

Ensure the financial stability of our parish and its ability to meet today's debts and assure the financial requirements for long-range parish growth.

Increase education about stewardship and develop new ways for parishioners to contribute to the needs of the parish through their time, talent and treasure.

Prepare the parish budget and report income and expenditures to the parish semi annually.

Pay off the parish debt.

(Formulated by the Finance Committee)

## Land Use Goals

Remain wise stewards of our resources and avoid selling or giving away any property.

Preserve significant portions of St. John property as green space.

"Buildable areas" should serve as the location for any future structure which might be built to accommodate a variety of activities.

An area has been designated for future sports field development.

Retain all current St. John buildings because they are needed to meet the needs of this vibrant and growing community.

Actively participate in the West Chester Township Streetscape Design project.

(Formulated by Land Use Committee)



# Parishioner Input

## November, 2001 Listening Sessions

### Top Responses to 6 Questions

#### **The Most Important Ministries/ Activities of Our Parish Are**

Sunday Liturgy, Sacraments  
 Outreach Ministries  
 Youth Ministry, Education  
 Christ Renews His Parish  
 Education (all forms)  
 RCIA  
 Parish Festival  
 Music Program  
 Sacramental Preparation

#### **The Aspects of Our Parish Of Which I am Most Proud Are**

Being warm, welcoming, friendly  
 Responding to needs as they arise  
 Parish involvement in community  
 The Pastor (and associate)  
 Our Celebration of Liturgy  
 Involvement of the people  
 Spirit of Community  
 The Staff  
 The Property, facilities  
 Diverse ministries/programs to accommodate diverse needs

#### **As a Parish We Are Limited By**

Lack of giving by members  
 Lack of people who actually get involved, volunteer  
 Lack of space  
 The shortage of ordained ministers  
 Lack of time, priorities  
 Not having a school  
 Being too large (in numbers)  
 Budget doesn't match need

#### **Over the next few years, we are going to need to focus energy and attention on**

Retaining youth in church  
 Increasing participation of people  
 Increasing contributions  
 Reduce the debt  
 The transition to new pastor

#### **The Greatest Challenges We Are Going to Face In the Next Few Years Are**

Dealing with priest shortage  
 Welcoming, accepting, adjusting to new pastor  
 Finances  
 Stability/relevance of Church in a changing society  
 Continued growth  
 Ministry to youth  
 Increasing participation  
 Dealing with diversity  
 Maintaining sense of community

#### **The Qualities/Traits I Most Expect in Our Next Pastor Are**

Very good preacher/speaker  
 Friendly, warm, welcoming  
 Compassionate  
 Good sense of humor  
 Strong leadership skills  
 Good with children  
 Available and accessible  
 Open minded  
 Person of Faith, Spiritual leader  
 Good Listener  
 Energetic  
 Collaborative, consensus builder  
 Liberal/progressive  
 Effective communicator  
 Passionate in performing duties

