

A DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

ST. JEROME PARISH

Issue #3
April 2008

PARISH PLANNING TEAM MEETING #3

On March 27, 2008, the third meeting of the Parish Planning Team (PPT) was held at St. Jerome Parish. At this meeting the PPT worked on the following:

- Edit SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) of the Planning Area
- Edit Mission Statement draft
- Create Purpose Statement for Planning Area
- Formulate Planning Area Challenges

The PPT members received the results of the Case Questionnaire each had completed at PPT Meeting #2. The following are the answers that were given most often:

1. What most impresses you about St. Jerome Parish?

- Multicultural atmosphere / diversity
- The parish has remained in operation in spite of its many obstacles.
- Welcoming
- Fr. Jimmy

2. What is your future vision for this parish in the next 1-5 years?

- Get parishioners more involved
- Revitalizing / upgrades to physical plant
- Increased parishioners
- Youth involvement
- More ownership
- Total unity within the whole community
- Stronger finances

3. What differences have you noticed in the past 1-5 years?

- Improved maintenance of physical plant
- Decreasing numbers of parishioners
- Parking lot
- Fr. Jimmy
- Long time parishioners are leaving
- Loss of many families due to Katrina
- Apathy due to revolving door of pastors

4. What needs must be addressed?

- Physical plant / maintenance
- More parishioners active in the parish and community
- Bring the parish together as a single family consisting of all members.
- Increase donations / fundraisers.

5. If you could snap your fingers and change three things in the parish, what would those three things be?

- Greater attendance at all Masses
- Music / choir (youth choir)
- More active participation of parishioners so that our parish could provide more services and activities.
- New building/up-grades
- Youth programs
- Pay off parish debt.

You may be asking, "What is the overall goal of this process?" The goal is to create a dynamic plan (LRAP) for the future of the parish that will meet the needs of present parishioners and future generations.

FUTURE PARISH PLANNING TEAM MEETINGS

Thursday, April 24, 2008 at 7:00

Thursday, May 15, 2008 at 7:00

****PARISH CONVOCATION****

ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!!

Please make plans to attend the Parish Convocation, on Thursday, June 19, 2008, where each parishioner will be given the opportunity to give their input on St. Jerome's Long Range Plan.

WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

If you would like to offer your perspective at this time, please do so by completing this page and returning it to the parish office by mail, in person or through the Sunday collection. The parish office address is: 2402 33rd Street, Kenner, LA 70065.

Thanks for taking the time to give your best ideas for the future of St. Jerome!

1. Please list the current strengths of our parish.

2. During this process we will continue to remind ourselves that we are working to provide a stronger parish. Please list the current areas that you feel need improvement at St. Jerome.

3. Be creative! If you could snap your fingers, what would you change at St. Jerome today?

Name (optional) _____