

# Shaping our Space

A Faith in Our Future Project

- ❑ **Can you think “outside of the box” as together we think “inside of the box - we know as our church?”**
- ❑ **What is our direction for the future? Is this a step of faith our community is ready to take?**
- ❑ **How do I know what needs to be done? Do I have anything to offer? How can I participate?**

These are all good questions. For answers to these questions and to participate in the discussions come to the following sessions and tell us what you think and find out the answers.



Our liturgical design consultant and our architect will lead the faith community of Our Lady of Lourdes in a series of conversations that will assist our parish in creating a shared vision for renewing our church building. We will study a bit of what the church asks of us, evaluate images of how other parishes did similar work and gather your input on the project. Together we will come to understand the basic principles outlined for us by the church. Our documents tell us that the church building is to be a reflection of the community gathered there. Your participation and input will help to envision what we would like our renewed church to be like.

As a faith community Our Lady of Lourdes Parish has a rich tradition and history. It is important for us to reflect on that history and to add our own chapter on which the generations to come will add to. We are on this journey toward the kingdom of Christ.

All parishioners are invited, and encouraged, to attend as many sessions as you can. Each session will begin with prayer, followed by a presentation and conclude with an opportunity for your feedback regarding the project. See the complete schedule of sessions on the back and join us.

**Monday, May 4, 2009 - 6:30 pm – Parish Hall**

*Called and Gathered - A Place for Baptism and Reconciliation*

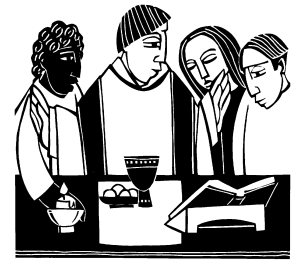


The sacraments are our celebration of the transforming grace of God in our lives. Our life united with Christ begins at Baptism. What would a place for baptism be like? What are the symbols that speak to us in this sacrament? What is the relationship of Baptism with other sacramental celebrations? How is the sacrament of Reconciliation related to Baptism? How does the place of the font strengthen the experience of the threshold of Baptism?

**Monday, May 18, 2009 – 6:30 – Parish Hall**

*To Share in the Feast - Our Place at the Table of the Lord*

The “source and summit” of our life as Catholic Christians is the celebration of the Eucharist. This is our “Communion” with God. How can our church facilitate this celebration more fully? How will we foster full and active participation? What is the relationship of the sacramental presence of Christ in the community, on the altar and in the tabernacle? Every Christian is a guest invited to a great feast. How does the placement of the Table extend the invitation to “Come and eat?”



**Monday, June 1, 2009 – 6:30 – Parish Hall**

*Sacred Images and Places of Devotion*



Symbolism is the powerful language through which God can speak to us. Through our prayer and meditation before a sacred image the sacred art can assist us to move beyond the obvious and uncover the mystery it represents. The images placed in our church are not decoration but rather tell “the story.” How do our images tell our story?

**Monday, June 15, 2009 – 6:30 – Parish Hall**

*Building the Kingdom - Our Worship, Our Church*

The structure of a Place of Worship should echo the ritual actions of the liturgy and the celebratory voices of each parish. As we look to renew our Place of Worship, what features need to be considered? How is the proclamation of the worship strengthened by good lighting, good sound, and surroundings that provide human comfort? What are the components of the art and architecture that reinforce the breadth and depth of Catholic liturgy? How does the building help to engage the physical as well as the spiritual?

