

Review current communication vehicles to determine possibility of modification or revision

Prepare revised draft versions for evaluation by parishioner group

Develop a written plan to coordinate and support consistent parish communications

Community Forum Solutions:

Automated/broadcast messages (like Lake Villa/Antioch has) to notify parishioners (especially for church closing, bulletin misprints, etc)

Anonymous suggestion box

Find and IT/communications company which will donate their services

Invite Fr. Pat Brennan from Holy Family Parish in Inverness, to speak about his weekly radio program

The pulpit is a very important communication tool; use it

**IMPLEMENTATION TEAM “F”:**  
**FACILITIES & GROUNDS**

Purpose Statement

*The purpose of the Facilities and Grounds Planning Team is to create a plan that will:*

*Improve the grounds and facilities of St. Peter’s thereby encouraging more involvement in our faith community and in the liturgical and social life of our parish; research information concerning our resources – monetary, volunteer and employed staff; study the parking and traffic flow problems; plan for a study of future maintenance, changes and improvements.*

**Challenges**

F-1 How can we increase parish income to fund improvements?

Strategic Solutions:

Fund-raising

Endowments

Deferred gifts

Community Forum Solutions:

Professional or parishioner entertainment as a fund-raiser, e.g. St James in Arlington Heights

Tell how money will be spend and provide opportunity for parishioners to comment on it/give input

F-2 How can we gather information regarding building maintenance?

Strategic Solutions:

Using the staff in place, Pastor, Business Manager, Maintenance Supervisor, Landscaper plus any parishioner with experience in the problem being addressed

Community Forum Solutions:

Put someone in charge and give guidelines to develop priorities

F-3 How can we improve traffic flow and parking problems?

Strategic Solutions:

Involve the village in the feasibility of permanent one way streets around the property

Change Mass times allowing more time between each Mass

Have 3 Sunday a.m. Masses and one in the late afternoon

Add pavement for general and handicapped parking

Community Forum Solutions:

Enforce “No Parking Zone” in front of elevator to avoid accidents, more parking spaces, have people assist with parking at high volume Masses, traffic flow one-way around St. Peter’s

Enlarge paved area to provide more parking

Conduct study to improve existing parking and traffic flow

Parking attendants at Masses helping with parking/traffic flow

Buy the remaining houses on the block to expand parking

Coordinate with School Board; they are working on this

F-4 How can we increase attendance and, thereby, income?

Strategic Solutions:

All solutions discussed such as improved meeting areas, better use of the RE building, a Cry Room that would allow people to sit down, an improved heating system and softer lighting in the Church are all contingent on funding. We have a Catch 22 here in that, in order to have a facility that is welcoming and updated so as to draw more people, we need more money and to get more money in our collections, we need more people.

Community Forum Solutions:

Contact parishioners who do not use envelopes

Improve children’s Cry Room with TV monitor of altar area

Ask parishioners what they want to hear from a sermon

Increase evangelization to increase attendance

F-5 How can we get people to volunteer to accomplish many tasks and free up staff?

Strategic Solutions:

Be open and welcoming

Acknowledge and thank volunteers

Accept any help, even for a short period of time.

Community Forum Solutions:

Place an ad in bulletin stating that we need help with . . .web-site, grounds clean up, etc

Place same ad on our web site

Publicize opportunities to help support the staff and define what’s needed

You have to get them involved first; this is a long-term goal, not short-term

Ask

Announce what help or volunteers are needed well in advance and keep announcing with updates

Ask for volunteers for specific tasks, e.g. planting, raking, watering, painting, etc.

PARISH COMMUNITY FORUM  
IMPLEMENTATION TEAM KICK-OFF MEETING  
JANUARY 25, 2009  
1—3 pm  
Father Frawley Hall  
ALL PARISHIONERS INVITED! BRING A FRIEND!