

St. Edward Catholic Church

Visioning

Master Plan 2010



St. Edward Visioning: Focus on the Future (part 2).

St. Edward has been operating with a master plan adopted and approved by the Archdiocese in 1962. The plan is outdated and no longer represents the parish today without a current vision or master plan for decades. As stated by Father Gary, without a current vision to guide us in our everyday decisions, we may not end up where we want to be in the future and instead “things will happen in a haphazard and unplanned way.”



To address this problem, the St. Edward Visioning Committee (comprised of the St. Edward Administrative and Pastoral Councils) has been working over the last year to create a new vision/master plan for our parish. We have been gathering information from parishioners, staff, and parish based organizations and we have interviewed group leaders. We have also completed an extensive outreach campaign. We have distributed visioning information in the bulletin and have sought information from parishioners with questionnaires distributed at mass. We have also conducted four parish wide visioning “open houses” (including Spanish based open houses). The Visioning Committee has also reviewed other parishes and churches of other denominations to determine if there are other approaches to achieve our mission that we may not have considered. We have also studied the needs and resources of the greater Keizer community.

After receiving and prayerfully considering all this information, we have put together a framework to help the Parish begin to develop a long term vision/master plan. We have reviewed our parish mission, assessed where we believe we are now, and have attempted to identify a vision and set our priorities for achieving this vision.

When the visioning process is complete, St. Edward will have a new long term vision/master plan for our ministries and facilities which will be used as our guide for many years to come. However, before we can complete the long term vision, we need your help in three areas.

1. First, we need you to be familiar with some basic facts about our parish and our mission as a church.
2. Second, we need you to read our proposed vision and priority list and then attend our next parish meeting on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 (Spanish Meeting May 7) to give us final input on our proposals.
3. Third, and most importantly, we need you to volunteer to help us with the many committees and task forces that will be asked to give us input on what steps we should take to move forward with each of our identified priorities.

Basic Facts About St. Edward Parish



1. How many parishioners are at St. Edward Parish and are we growing?

- ◆ St. Edward has 1,163 families and 2,938 registered parishioners.
- ◆ There has been a 30% growth in the parish since 2002.
- ◆ 336 youth enrolled in religious education classes. Youth Ministry classes are very close to capacity.
- ◆ Spanish Mass has been standing room only for the past year.
- ◆ Spanish religious education classes are full and turning students away.
- ◆ St. Edward's facility accommodates over 128 regular meetings each month. This does not include Holiday Dinners, Salem Interfaith Hospitality, Red Cross blood drives and our many social functions.
- ◆ While there may be room to sit at many non-holiday English masses, the parish hall and meeting rooms have reached their capacity.

2. How long have parishioners been at St. Edward?

Of the Parishioners registered with St. Edward Parish who reported how long they were in the Parish:

- ◆ 74% have been here 9 years or less, with 46% of these parishioners joining within the last 4 years
- ◆ 26% have been here for more than 10 years

3. Where are our parishioners from?

- ◆ 58% of our Parishioners are from Keizer
- ◆ 36% are from Salem
- ◆ Almost 5% are from a variety of cities throughout the Willamette Valley and beyond

4. How many of us have kids living at home?

- ◆ Approximately 40% of Parishioners have children still living at home
- ◆ 60% do not have children at home
- ◆ This is comparable to the percentages in Keizer where 39% of the households have children under 18 living at home



5. What do Keizer residents believe?

The graph (right) represents the local religious congregations and those without a faith community.

6. What is the projected growth of Keizer?

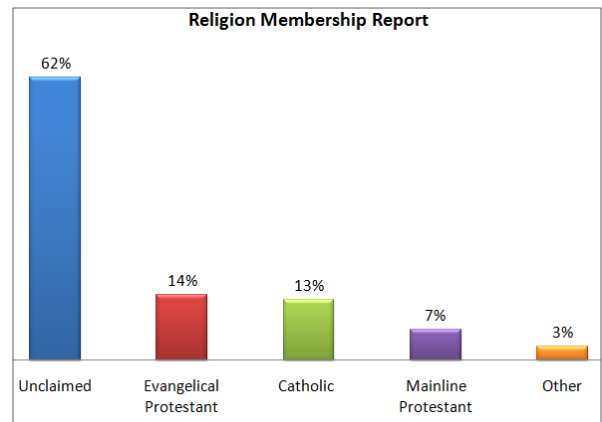
These numbers are extremely difficult to predict because two of the major factors affecting growth (economic vitality and land availability) are both in a state of extreme uncertainty at this time. The urban growth boundary has been constraining growth in Keizer but may be expanded.

The current population of Keizer in 2009 is 36,150. Population projections for 2030 range from approximately 41,000 to 49,000 residents with the medium growth projection of 46,955 residents. This represents a 24% increase from current population. It has been estimated that if the urban growth boundary constraints are removed and if we have medium growth rates, then the population of Keizer may rise to 50,756 by 2030, reflecting a nearly 30% increase in population in 20 years.

7. What do we do as a church?

There are various activities or functions within each category but to highlight a few we have Eucharistic Adoration, Faith Formation that provides classes for spiritual growth, education, and sacramental preparation. Outreach services include sack lunches for the homeless, prayer shawls for those who are ill, holiday dinners at Thanksgiving and Christmas, Christmas toys are given to children, and coats are provided to the needy in the winter. We work with and support other groups such as St. Vincent de Paul, Habitat for Humanity, the Keizer Community Food Bank, Foster Parents Night Out and Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network. For a more complete list of services, please visit our website at www.sainteds.com.

- ◆ St. Edward is a very engaged church with over 72 active ministries that conduct 128 regular meetings in the facilities every month. The Anglo and Hispanic ministries, while conducted separately, are similar enough to fall into common categories consisting of Liturgical, Sacramental, Outreach & Service, Prayer and Spirituality.



- ◆ Over 600 parishioners attend regular weekly religious education classes during the school year, as follows: English and Spanish K-12 Religious Education including sacramental preparation; Youth & Mid High; Young Adults; RCIA; Catholics Can Come Home; Bible Study; Faith 101; Grupo Nazareno; and English and Spanish Adult Education.
- ◆ We provide communion visits to the sick and homebound; Parish Nurses provide grief support to those who have lost loved ones; we advocate for respect for life, and much more. The St. Edward Social Club provides outings for senior parishioners, widows and widowers. The Knights of Columbus, Women's Group, Men's Group and Spiritual Book Club are ministries open to parishioners or non-parishioners that provide an avenue for people to be involved in a faith based group that supports the parish and one another.

8. Are there currently space shortages with our current facilities?

YES! As an active parish with limited resources, scheduling events takes coordination and often-times months in advance to find a date.

- ◆ With approximately 128 meetings held onsite a month, accommodating a wedding, funeral or dinner function in the parish hall can be a challenge.
- ◆ The Spanish Mass with nearly 1/3 children, has been standing room only for more than a year.
- ◆ Nearly 300 youth, ages 3 through high school, attend our religious education programs weekly. The facility is not large enough to host any event for all the youth enrolled in our programs and their parents.



Mission of St. Edward Parish

Our mission as a church family is as follows:

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit, and nourished by
Word and Sacrament:*

- ◆ *We proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ*
- ◆ *We build a prayerful community of believers where all are welcome*
- ◆ *We become witnesses to God's saving love through our outreach to others*

Vision for the Future of St. Edward Parish

St. Edward is a dynamic parish where we achieve our mission by:

- ♦ ***spreading the gospel throughout the community***
- ♦ ***engaging in worship in word and song that acknowledges and builds upon a relationship with Jesus Christ***
- ♦ ***by creating and supporting a comprehensive family and Parish ministry outreach for our faith community***
- ♦ ***by providing facilities to enable the church to fulfill its mission, and***
- ♦ ***by promoting social justice and charity.***



Priorities/Goals

Through our parish process the community discerned that there are five priorities that need to be addressed to achieve our vision. These priorities are as follows:

1. Catechesis/Spreading the Gospel
2. Worship
3. Family and Parish Ministry
4. Master Plan/Facilities
5. Social Justice



1. Catechesis/Spreading the Gospel:

Proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ by Sharing the Teachings of Christ to our Parishioners and to the Larger Community.

Our first and primary mission as a church is to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. To do this, we need to first “teach the faith” to our own parishioners and then we need to “share the faith” to others in our community. This area of need was made apparent during the visioning process.

The Visioning Committee with the input of the parish through the process recommends creating an **“Adult Faith Formation Committee” to assess and make recommendations regarding improving Catholic faith education and evangelization within the parish and to the general community.** This would include making recommendations regarding bible and scripture studies, whether there is a need for more “Faith 101” classes, family education programs, prayer groups, and how to better support and grow existing small groups. The Adult Faith Formation Committee would also be asked to specifically make recommendations regarding spreading the gospel to those who are not currently parishioners. The committee will also be asked to make a recommendation on how to support and increase participation in the RCIA & Catholics Can Come Home programs and whether or not we should add a support group for new Catholics following the Easter Vigil. These recommendations should be provided by February 2011.

In addition, the Adult Faith Formation Committee would be asked to evaluate and assess future staff needs and to write a proposed job description before January 1, 2011 to further support this ministry.

The Hispanic Council is also asked to create a sub committee to assess the educational needs specific to the Spanish speaking community and to assess obstacles for providing that education (lack of space, Spanish speaking instructors, etc).

2. Worship: Engage in Worship in Word and Song that Acknowledges and Builds Upon a Relationship with Christ.

The objective of this priority to promote worship through services and actions that allow people to gather in an atmosphere of reverence and prayer that draw us into a stronger relationship with Christ and with each other. The Pastoral Council and Liturgical Committee, together with staff, will continue to work on this priority to suggest ways to improve worship services generally with an added emphasis on reverence and devotional opportunities, possible variations among Masses, and to discuss any special needs or opportunities available for the Spanish Mass.



The exploration as to whether or not there is a need for additional worship space, personnel or Masses (including Spanish Masses) are issues that will also be discussed by the Liturgical Committee and Pastoral Council and with representatives from the Archdiocese.

The Liturgical Committee and Pastoral Council will also be asked to explore ways to enhance the hospitality and welcoming atmosphere of the church. Initial recommendations from the Liturgical Committee on any recommendations should be provided to the Pastoral Council by February 2011

In regard to music, surveys and our parish dialog affirmed that most people enjoy our current music offerings, but that there is also a great deal of interest in adding musical options. Through consultation, the Visioning Committee recommends the establishment of a **new music task force to gather information and make recommendations**, if any, on how we can best supplement our music worship experience here at St. Edward Parish. This task force would be asked to specifically look into possibilities of a youth choir, variability of music among Masses (traditional, folk, choir, band, etc.) spoken vs. singing of The Lord's Prayer, Spanish music opportunities and needs, and the desirability/feasibility of more concerts or music outside of the Mass. This task force would also be asked to make recommendations regarding facility needs/wants for enhancing the music and worship experiences of parishioners. Initial recommendations from this task force should be provided by February 2011.



3. Family Ministry: Support More Family and Parish Ministries.

The focus of this priority is to more fully minister to our own families and parishioners. While we have many excellent programs that are ministering to the needs of many parishioners (such as the St. Edward Social Club that provides outings for senior parishioners, widows and widowers, the Knights of Columbus, Women's Group, Men's Group, Spiritual Book Club, communion visits to the sick and homebound) more can be done.



The Care & Service Committee has supported families and Parishioners here at St. Edward Parish and they are commended for this valuable and needed service. *Our parish nurses provide grief support to those who have lost loved ones.* They are asked to continue to support all current programs as well as evaluate and make recommendations regarding their unmet needs and to provide a recommendation regarding a leadership succession plan and for a plan to recruit volunteers to carry on their important mission into the future. These recommendations should be provided by February 2011.

The Visioning committee has heard that there are a multitude of additional unmet needs of families and parishioners that also need to be evaluated. **It is recommended that we create a new Family Ministry Committee with staff support to evaluate and make recommendations regarding services and ministries to children, youth, young adults, families, married couples, and seniors, for both English speaking and Spanish speaking parishioners.**

This Family Ministry Committee would also evaluate and make recommendations regarding how to bring the parish together as a closer and unified faith community including the evaluation of current social programs and the exploration of adding or enhancing additional functions such as picnics, trips, dances, and other social/community based activities.

Finally, the Family Ministry Committee will assess and make recommendations regarding facility needs, classroom space, storage space, and preparation rooms for these ministries.



These recommendations should be provided by February 2011.

The Hispanic Ministry Committee is asked to evaluate the needs and plans for all Hispanic programs. This review would include current programs and recommendations for future programs that would serve this ministry, as well as a recommendation regarding staff, classroom space, and storage needs. These recommendations should be provided by February 2011.

4. Master Plan/Facilities: Provide Parish Facilities to Enable St. Edward Church to Fulfill its Mission.

One issue parishioners made clear during the visioning process is that we are becoming increasingly crowded and restricted in our ability to fully pursue our mission or to welcome all who want to come to our parish. We average about 128 meetings a month and our facilities are often booked out for many months at a time. Our worship space is also becoming increasingly crowded, especially for our Spanish Mass which is standing room only.



As a first step, the currently existing Facility Committee will evaluate and make recommendations regarding the current and projected future needs and plans for the existing facilities (including the park). This would include plans and cost estimates for the remodel of the Adoration Chapel, cry room, park and the current landscape plans.

Another related issue is the land between the church and McNary High school. This land is owned by St. Edward Parish and could represent an important source of revenue to help St. Edward meet its future needs and obligations. However, none of this land can be sold until we have determined how much of this land the Parish might need in the future.

To address these issues, the Visioning Committee recommends **that we create a Building and Land Use Committee that will evaluate the current and future facility needs of all the parish committees** (including all the committees, task forces, and groups involved in the visioning process) and to then make a recommendation on how best to address those needs. It will consider all options including maintaining the status quo, remodeling existing structures, building new facilities or rooms (such as fireplace room, conference room, adoration chapel, connecting vestibule with hall, multi-media rooms, classrooms, storage or lunch rooms, expanded or updated kitchen, etc), and will also consider the prospects, advantages, and costs of building a new church on the existing parish property, if warranted.

The Building & Land Use Committee will value the surplus land and then consider all the



financial resources (or lack thereof) of the parish in making its recommendations. If a new church or facility building is recommended, this committee would also be tasked with working with an architect to come up with a proposed footprint of any proposed new structure(s) with an emphasis on identifying excess land that the church will not need in the future. This committee will begin its work in by February 2011; after all other committees have finished their initial recommendations regarding facility needs and should make an initial recommendation to the visioning committee in the summer of 2011.

5. Social Justice: Continue to Witness to God's Saving Love Through Our Support of Social Justice and Charity.

St. Edward Parish has a strong tradition of supporting social justice, charity, and outreach to others in need. These programs include the Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners, coat closet, African Missions, sack lunches for the homeless, prayer shawls for those who are ill, and Christmas toy giveaways. We also support and advocate for respect for life and we work with and support other groups such as St. Vincent de Paul Society, Habitat for Humanity, the Keizer Community Food Bank, Foster Parents Night Out and Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network.

During the visioning process St. Edward Parishioners indicated strong support to continue all existing social justice, charity, and outreach programs and to continue to look for even more opportunities to meet the needs of our community. The Outreach Committee is asked to evaluate and make recommendations on the current and future needs of this ministry, including a volunteer recruitment, retention, and leadership succession plan and to make an evaluation of any resource or facility needs of this important ministry. The recommendations should be provided by February 2011.



Please Volunteer to Help!

As is apparent from the descriptions of our goals and priorities above, there is a great deal of work that still needs to be done in order for us to complete our master plan, vision, and roadmap to the future. Below is a list of the committees and task forces that will be taking on the job of putting “meat on the bones” of the vision. Some of these committees currently exist and could use your help. Other committees and task forces are new and will be appointed by Father Gary from persons who express an interest in helping. (A committee will be ongoing into the future while a “task force” is a group that will meet solely for the purpose of visioning and will no longer meet after the vision is completed).



Please review this list and the detailed description of the tasks for each goal described above and let us know how you would like to help. Every voice in our parish counts and we want to hear from you.



Together the committees, task forces, and the Pastoral and Administrative Councils (serving jointly as your Visioning Committee) will create our long term vision and master plan and our journey to the future will begin.



GOAL	COMMITTEE/TASK FORCE	REPORTING DATE
1. Catechesis/Gospel		
	Adult Faith Formation Committee (new)	Feb. 2011
	Hispanic Council	Feb. 2011
2. Worship		
	Pastoral Council	Feb. 2011
	Liturgical Committee	Feb. 2011
	Music Task Force (new)	Feb. 2011
3. Family Ministry		
	Family Ministry Committee (new)	Feb. 2011
	Care & Services Committee	Feb. 2011
	Hispanic Ministry Committee	Feb. 2011
4. Master Plan/Facilities		
	Facility Committee	Feb. 2011
	Building and Land Use Task Force (new)	Summer. 2011
5. Social Justice		
	Outreach Committee	Feb. 2011

**Come to the
Town Hall
Visioning Meeting**

**In English
Wednesday April 21
7:00 PM
following Mass
Light dinner provided**

**In Spanish
Friday, May 7
7:00 pm**