



SACRED HEART CHURCH

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Sacred Heart Mission Statement

Sacred Heart Parish is a Spirit-filled community of persons who follow the teachings of Jesus Christ through the tradition of the Roman Catholic Church. As parishioners of Sacred Heart,
**we witness the presence of God in our community as a family, bound together by the Word and Eucharist*
**we journey together through worship, education, service, social activities and stewardship*
**we use our gifts and talents to reach out to others.*

August 1, 2010

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

This letter comes to you as a letter of love for our parish and inspired by the love of the Holy Trinity and the business of serving God and His people. Over the past few years a number of issues have come up regarding the intent and operations of our annual Potpourri of Art. Fr. Qui-Thac gave us the task of assessing the Potpourri of Art and making a recommendation for the future of the event in our community. It has been a formidable task to look back at the forty-year tradition of the Potpourri of Art, assess the present event, and make a recommendation for the future.

It was vital that we begin the assessment process by listening to what you, the Sacred Heart community involved in producing this event, could tell us of your experiences, observations and hopes for the future. During the month of May, we hosted two meetings at the Parish Hall and listened carefully to your responses and feedback. This is what we heard:

- Potpourri of Art is a great event, which represents our parish positively in the wider community.
- Potpourri of Art requires nine months of intense planning and work that falls disproportionately on a few. This has led to volunteer burnout and a relatively low return in terms of fundraising.
- Potpourri of Art is disruptive to the ministries and facilities of the parish.
- Our parish needs and wants community building events that celebrate our Catholic identity, e.g., a Catholic Art Show or Crèche Festival reflecting the multicultural universality of our Faith.
- Hold a smaller event using only the main floor of the Parish Hall, e.g., the country store, quilt, and café in the fall and a garden art show in the spring.
- Most frequently stated as significant for positive community building and sustainability is to develop and improve volunteer coordination, communication, parish leadership formation, and opportunities for hospitality.

We sincerely appreciate the parishioners who came and so enthusiastically participated in our listening sessions. The gifts of your time and talent to the forty-year legacy of the Potpourri of Art are not taken lightly. We fully recognize that when change takes place in a parish it can be interpreted negatively. We also recognize that change can bring renewed opportunities resulting in the greater good for an engaged parish community and improved parish formation. We treasure and sincerely appreciate the leaders, volunteers, and spirit of the Potpourri of Art. We look forward to a bright future of leadership development, community building, service, and renewed energy.

As a Pastoral Council, we are making the following recommendations to Fr. Qui-Thac:

1. That the parish takes a one year hiatus from sponsoring the Potpourri of Art.
2. That we work together to develop a strong foundation for community building and fundraising that resonates within the community and brings forth leadership.

In the Peace and Love of Christ,

Sacred Heart Pastoral Council

Carolyn Hill

Pat Kust

Sally Majkut

Carl Taylor