

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING PROPOSAL**

**Blessed Sacrament Parish  
275 Union Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06607**

- 1. Because our parish is situated in a currently depressed district of Bridgeport, it is vital that we cooperate with and encourage our neighbors, by example, and without ostentation, to maintain a safe, ordered and welcoming campus for our parishioners and guests.**
  - It has been recommended that part-time custodial personnel be hired in the next two years. Although this would gain salaried maintenance assistance for the parish, it most certainly would negatively affect the spirit of generous, dedicated volunteerism and ownership which has been essential to the survival of this community thus far.**
  - It is also essential that we secure and maintain the safety of our campus, thus enabling and inviting individuals and groups to assist us in caring for our property through service hours and collaborative work parties.**
  
- 2. Blessed Sacrament Parish has always been a place of encounter for urban and suburban populations. We would like this to continue for the blessing and mutual benefit of both, and to promote an experience here of the universality of our Faith and of our Church.**
  - With this as a goal, we will continue to reach out to suburban communities; parishes, universities and schools, and philanthropic organizations, informing them of our activities, of our accomplishments and of our particular needs.**
  - It is essential that we continue to foster and express gratitude among our parishioners for the generosity of our volunteers and benefactors through shared prayer and celebrations. Letters of acknowledgement must be sent promptly and consistently.**

3. Stewarding and Maintaining our property, as gifts that Our generous God has provided, and joyfully dedicating ourselves to our Mission Apostolate of service to our urban neighborhood through our Food Pantry and Clothing Outreach, we can continue to be a location of pilgrimage, retreat, service and growth in faith, in hope and in Christian charity. Meanwhile, we must recognize that our district of Bridgeport is currently not experiencing residential development.

- And so, we must also reflect upon our history, when attendance and participation in worship, in religious education, and in parish life was more populous. The closing of our parish school was unquestionably a significant factor here.
- However, a more organized and personal effort must be made in the next two years to inquire about our former parishioners and their well-being. Have they moved, and affiliated elsewhere? Are they still near, but no longer here? It is time to let them know that we miss them, and wish to invite them back.
- At Blessed Sacrament Parish, we celebrate our American Catholic faith enriched by the traditions of Black Christianity and Latino Piety. More important, we represent the mutual respect and collaboration of both cultures. In the next two years, we need to make a greater effort to let our former parishioners know that we are still here.

4. The condition of our parking lot, sidewalks, security lighting and restrooms must be improved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rev. Skip Karcsinski".

Rev. Skip Karcsinski  
Administrator