

*St. Frances Cabrini Parish Community*

*Parish Pastoral Plan*

*Part Five*

**Values and Beliefs**

**Faithfulness**

**By John Chapman**

Our St. Frances Cabrini Parish Envisioning Team was an amazing group of people whom I've grown to know better and admire so much more! Monsignor McCormac and Ms. Audrey Wilson graciously led our efforts with loving concern for our Parish and the entire community. They conveyed a resolute commitment to our parishioners and to our Parish Community. Ms. Lori Tedjeske from the Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI), who facilitated our meetings, demonstrated her great love for the Catholic Church and offered much insight into our deliberations. The Catholic Leadership Institute and our Church are so blessed to have Lori, an enthusiastic promoter of our Catholic Faith.

The Envisioning Team Members contributed with such generosity, commitment and passion throughout this past year's work. Kelsey and Robert Cole, Matt Creevey, Colleen Garneau, Tony Pitaro, Carol Seymour, Terri Smart, Michelle Tomsho and Hank Wajda were remarkable team members whose faithfulness to our Lord, to their loved ones and our Church is truly inspiring! It was an honor and a valuable lesson to have served with Monsignor McCormac, Audrey, Lori and the entire Team!

One of the tasks for the Parish Envisioning Team was to identify the three most important values and beliefs in order for our Parish to thrive. The values identified are: Reverence, Community and Faithfulness. This reflection highlights the Envisioning Team's definition of the value of *Faithfulness*.

***Believing in God's unconditional love, we are faithfully devoted to know, love and serve Him. We are committed to deepening our relationship with Jesus Christ who guides us through our life's journey.***

The Envisioning Team's definition of *Faithfulness* was developed as Team members offered the words/phrases listed below, and then discussed and finalized them for inclusion in the Parish Pastoral Plan.

*Believing in God's unconditional love:* God is devoted to us and will always provide for us no matter the challenge, heartache, sin or defeat. "God *is* love and love is *of* God." God has loved us through Jesus, our Blessed Mother, the Saints of the Church and the saints in our lives.

*Faithfully devoted to know, love and serve Him:* We, as disciples of Christ, are committed to **know** our Lord through reading and contemplation of Scripture, religious reading/education and intentional learning and imitation of the holy works and teachings of the Church, priests, religious, ministers, teachers and role models. We **love** God by honoring Him in all that we are, say and do. We share the joy of God's love by seeing Christ in, and bringing Christ to, all whom we meet through our actions, prayer, and service. We **serve** our Lord through active participation in worship, assisting in Church ministries and community outreach and by trying to help others with love, compassion, and empathy.

*Committed to deepening our relationship with Jesus Christ:* We understand as disciples, that Christ is the Head of our Church and that Jesus is our Lord and Savior and that our relationship with Him is reciprocal. We must be open to see and hear God's presence throughout our "life's journey" at home, Church, work, and recreation. We seek to "see Him more clearly, follow Him more nearly and love Him more dearly."

The Envisioning Team chose Faithfulness as a core value and belief because when enlivened, through all that we are and do within the Saint Frances Cabrini Parish Community and beyond, we will become closer to God. We will experience His love each day we live and thus enable the Saint Frances Cabrini Parish Community to continue to shine as a beacon of FAITHFULNESS throughout Fairless Hills, Fallsington, Levittown, the surrounding areas, and indeed the world!