

The "year two" report covers April 2009-April 2010, and will be published in a series of articles, following the six primary Road Map recommendations, though not necessarily in order. This report is for recommendation #5. (The "year one" report was published in the June 26, 2009, Hawaii Catholic Herald.)

ROAD MAP REPORT: YEAR TWO

The report to Bishop Larry Silva and the Diocese of Honolulu in the implementation of "Witness to Jesus: Diocesan Road Map for Pastoral, Program, and Facility Needs 2008-2013"

Road Map Recommendation # 5: Repair and maintenance of church and school facilities

Desired outcome: Churches that are dignified, sacred places; schools and offices that are clean, safe and functional; and living spaces that are well maintained.

By Vince Vernay

Diocesan Facilities Services Manager and chair of the diocesan task force for the repair and maintenance of church and school facilities

Planned actions and their implementation

ACTION: The Road Map repair and maintenance task force will give presentations to all parishes.

IMPLEMENTATION: Through the efforts of the Diocesan Planning and Building Commission, 62 of 66 parishes now have parish planning and building committees. The remaining parishes are in the process of forming their committees.

ACTION: Task force vicariate representatives will establish working relationships with parish leaders.

IMPLEMENTATION: The Diocesan Planning and Building Commission has assigned members to each of the nine vicariates to help guide pastors and parish planning and building committees through repairs, maintenance and construction projects. This collaboration benefits both the diocese and parish.

ACTION: The repair and maintenance task force will upgrade and expand its website which provides resources to parishes and schools.

IMPLEMENTATION: The facilities services website www.catholichawaii.org/facilities/index_FM.html has been modified and updated with new information.

ACTION: The repair and maintenance task force will create a facilities maintenance checklist for parochial schools.

IMPLEMENTATION: School maintenance guidelines have been distributed.

ACTION: The repair and maintenance task force will develop procedures for parishes, schools and other diocesan entities to follow in case of a natural disaster.

IMPLEMENTATION: Disaster procedure planning is still in the development stage.

ACTION: The repair and maintenance task force will publish lists of construction and maintenance consultants, vendors and contractors for parishes and schools.

IMPLEMENTATION: The task force updates weekly this list on its website.

Other activities

■ **Parish Electrical System Guidelines:** The repair and maintenance task force is writing guidelines to help bring parish electrical systems into compliance with electrical safety codes.

■ **Diocesan Energy Conservation Plan:** The bishop appointed a diocesan energy conservation evaluation committee to select a company to conduct an energy conservation program for all diocesan facilities. The committee selected the Trane Company.

■ Additional information available at http://www.catholichawaii.org/facilities/index_FM.html

Task force members

- Peggy Leong Co-chair
- Rev. Bill Shannon
- Mike Browning
- Shantel Hunt
- Lovey Ann DeRego
- Gene Pollock
- Paulette Vernay

Vicariate representatives

- Douglas DickWest Big Island
- Edward AndradeEast Big Island
- Walter ClurMaui
- William ShannonKauai
- Mark LivelyWest Honolulu
- Vincent Vernay.....East Honolulu
- Stephen FongLeeward Oahu
- Anne KusaoCentral Oahu
- Frank Felix Jr.Windward Oahu

PARISH STORY



The pastor of St. Rita Parish, Nanakuli, Father Alapaki Kim, with the parish planning and building committee and their renovated restrooms.

St. Rita's restrooms

St. Rita Parish in Nanakuli is a small parish on the leeward coast which has on its property a church, a rectory and other small structures. In 2005, following new Environmental Protection Agency regulations affecting many parishes in Hawaii, it closed its cess-pool rented portable toilets.

The parish formed a planning and building committee in 2009 which took as its first project installing a septic tank system and renovation of the restrooms. Assisted by the vicariate representative from the Diocesan Planning and Building Commission and using the diocesan facilities website, the committee developed a project description, hired a mechanical engineer to design the restroom septic tank system and bid the project to three licensed contractors.

The engineer helped the committee pick a contractor which completed the proper wastewater connections. Parish volunteers then renovated the restrooms with new plumbing fixtures and new walls, doors, lights, and paint.

The project was completed by its Easter Sunday deadline. The parish planning and building

committee is looking forward to its next project.

Best practices

St. Rita's restroom restoration project was successful because of parish leadership, parishioner commitment, and the use by the parish planning and building committee of the following "best practices":

- It worked with a Diocesan Planning and Building Commission vicariate representative
- It used the diocesan facilities services website
- It developed a project description, resulting in a well thought out scope of work
- It hired a professional consultant to design the system and to analyze bids
- It bid the work to licensed contractors
- It supervised the parish volunteers

The St. Rita Parish story is one example of a successful repair project. Other parish stories will be shared over the coming months.