

SLIDE PRESENTATION

SS. PETER & PAUL COMMUNITY CENTER

VISUAL

AUDIO

LIGHTS UP FOR OPENING

INTRODUCTION

My dear friends, I would like to thank you for inviting me today (tonight). Something very big and exciting is happening in our west side inner city. A renaissance is taking place at SS. Peter & Paul's parish. And a church community that once knew glorious days, then fell into decline, is now on the brink of a new birth.

We are in the process of reaching out and sharing freely with the needy people of our neighborhood. More than 150 volunteers from all over Rochester are working with us. But there are so many needs still unmet.

This presentation will show you the progress we have made to date, and where we hope to go from here.

LIGHTS DOWN.
PROJECTOR ON.

1. Title frame:

"In my life Lord,
be glorified."

1. I would like to begin by showing how our volunteers are giving glory to God, simply by their loving example of service. At the end. I'm going to invite you to join us in our work, so that you too can be a part of this Christian mission to which we are called.

2. Exterior of Church.

2. I'm sure most of you are familiar with the Bull's Head area on Rochester's west side. St. Mary's Hospital is on the corner of Genesee and Main, and nearby at 720 West Main St. is SS. Peter and Paul's Church.

3. Interior of Church.

3. The parish has a long history, dating back to 1843. It reached its zenith shortly after the turn of the century when this gorgeous Lombard-Romanesque church was built. Although the church has lost some of its luster today, it was at the time the center of

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a complex that included a convent, school and rectory, all in the same beautiful style that graces many cathedrals in northern Italy.

4. Daniel with guitar and black man shaking hands in front of altar

4. Intense social pressures in the 1960's caused the once vibrant neighborhood to break up. Many residents withdrew to the suburbs

5. Liturgical dance scene.

5. ... and a steady influx of black and Hispanic peoples has transformed the parish into a multi-cultural congregation.

6. Photo of Bishop Clark at Anniversary Celebration.

6. In 1967 the parish was assigned the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. With their coming the seeds began to be sown for the rebirth we are experiencing today.

7. Workers preparing sandwiches and lunch bags.

7. Seven years ago, the pastor and the parish leaders sensed the growing number of homeless and hungry people in the area. And as a response, St. Peter's Kitchen was started.

8. Little girl and her father getting lunch bag.

8. The progress of this ministry has been astonishing. From a few dozen lunches each noon...

9. Overview of guests being served.

9. to as many as 400 hot meals now being served. Last year we averaged 6,000 hot meals per month, nearly 72,000 meals for the entire year.

10. Volunteers praying

10. The Holy Spirit has been at work, not only in our generous and faithful volunteers (here you see them praying before they begin to serve guests)...

11. Unloading bread

11. ...but also in the leaders and owners of supermarkets and retail food outlets who day in, day out, donate huge volumes of bread...

12. Stocking canned goods.

12. ... canned goods, milk and fresh

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vegetables. It's really exciting to see how God is blessing our work by making so many wonderful things happen.

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| 13. Walk in refrigerators. | 13. March 1, 1989 was a very special day for St. Peter's Kitchen. After conducting a year-long fund raising campaign, we completed an extensive upgrade of the kitchen facilities. The work included new walk-in refrigerators and freezers, |
| 14. Electrician at circuit box. | 14. new electrical wiring throughout, |
| 15. Installer working on heat duct | 15. a completely new, zoned heating system that will substantially reduce fuel bills, |
| 16. Food preparation table | 16. improved food preparation tables and dishwashing system, |
| 17. Workers at stoves | 17. modernized stoves and ovens for more efficient cooking. |
| 18. Foodline | 18. and a new cafeteria style food counter to speed our service. Now we are really moving into high gear. |
| 19. Carmen Lombard | 19. But there's something else, often people who lack food, lack clothing as well. And from this very obvious need was born our clothing ministry seven years ago. |
| 20. Overview - Clothes Closet operation | 20. Again, from modest beginnings, it has grown to a giant operation. We have two storage rooms with literally tons of clothing mounted on racks with wheels. |
| 21. Alternate view - | 21. Every Saturday morning, we serve an average of 60 men, women and children providing them with all types |

of clothing and footwear at no cost. In addition, we furnish clothing to the veterans hospital in Batavia and are networking with other groups and inner city parishes so they can develop their own operation.

22. Alternate photo
Clothes Closet

22. In spite of distributing more than one ton of clothing per month, we are still overwhelmed by the clothing that is sent us. We badly need more people to help us sort and distribute. We also need people to solicit men's, children's and extra large size clothing. Would you care to volunteer?

23. Youth Group'

23. One beautiful side effect of this ministry has been the opportunity to involve our young people. Groups of high school students come on Saturday mornings to help out in the clothing ministry and the Kitchen. They are the "student activists" for the 1990's receiving valuable, hands-on training.

24. Alternate photo
of youth at center

24. To date over 20 different groups have come to serve with us. And while they are here, we take time to discuss this work with them -- what our goals are, the different kinds of people we serve, such as homeless, the working poor, those suffering from alcoholism, and those with limited emotional or mental capacity.

25. Instructing Young
people

25. We try to show the young people what we hope to accomplish. Ultimately our goals are very spiritual, but we must start with meeting more urgent and immediate physical needs.

26. Man on ladder
adjusting heat duct.
(silhouette).

26. At times we do have important breakthroughs in helping someone turn his life around. For example, one of our staunchest volunteers is a former

ex-offender who has since put in many hours of service at the Center.

27. Doctor Iuppa and child.

27. But believe it or not those who benefit the most are the workers themselves. As one staff member said to me, "Working at the center is like a fatal attraction. I like it so much, I find myself giving more and more time to it."

28. Boarded up house

28. Over the years, as the people and the staff of the parish became more involved with the poor and the homeless,

29. Abandoned storefronts.

29. they began to see how the chain of poverty was being passed from one generation to the next.

30. Man at Junk pile.

30. Many of our clients are caught up in a perpetual cycle of failure. Some are hard core unemployed -- and very dependant on welfare. We would like to do more with this group and teach them skills for living that will lead to self-reliance.

31. Closeup of beautiful children's faces

31. One approach has been reach out to the youngest of the young - toddlers between the ages of 2 and 5 who are not defeated before they start.

32. Day Care Sign

32. In 1987, we started the Day Care Center.

33. Teacher reading to children in Day Care.

33. Our goal is to make these children "ready for school". To give them the social skills, pre-academic skills, self-esteem and bonding with family that are crucial for later success in the classroom.

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| 34. Classroom scene - children painting. | 34. Adam Urbanski, president of Rochester Teacher's Association has said that a high percentage of children entering Kindergarten from inner city are not prepared. |
| 35. Kids on indoor slide. | 35. We might ask, "What's wrong?" One thing we know, is that by the time they reach elementary school, some children are often filled with frustration which boils over into rage. Lacking training in communication and interpersonal skills, they sometimes resort to aggressiveness as a coping style. |
| 36. Two boys playing with truck. | 36. Many of them suffer from poor self-esteem and therefore have little respect for fellow human beings. Is it any wonder that learning soon falls off and they are hopelessly behind their peers? |
| 37. Ginny Rizzo's Office | 37. Perhaps now you can see why we went to Day Care as a remedy. It offers them an opportunity for healing interaction with instructors and with their peers. They are also exposed to the wealth of experiences our own children have and thus are better prepared to cope with the world. |
| 38. Teacher with children - counting blocks. | 38. Our center is located on the first floor of the rectory in a very pleasant and comfortable setting. We have a staff of two full-time people and one part-time associate. Currently, 12 children are enrolled and doing beautifully. Here you see them counting blocks in English ... and in French. Can you count from 1 to 10 in French? |
| 39. Grandfather taking | 39. The opportunities in Day Care are |

child home.

enormous. In addition to the children's needs, the parents are looking for something better. They need to be taught parenting skills, nutrition, budgeting and how to work with the schools. Would you care to help?

40. Mass at high altar

40. Of course, we operate as a full-time parish with all the traditional functions of Mass, the sacraments, liturgy, religious education and parish celebrations.

41. Picture of Parish anniversary celebration.

41. One of our Sunday Masses is in Spanish for our Hispanic parishioners.

42. Sacristy Mass

42. ...and a cozy daily Mass is celebrated each morning in the Sacristy. Many of the Kitchen volunteers are thus able to start off their day with a spiritual reminder of their real purpose.

43. Infant Baptism

43. We have a strong Religious Education Department whose primary goal is to build church. We've had special success in conjunction with the baptism of new children. When parents bring their children to be baptized, we have an opportunity to draw them back into active worship.

44. Religious Education

44. Parish members then follow up with home visitations of interested parties. On Sundays, religious education is offered to the children. And on Wednesday nights we have a Bible Study Group for adults.

45. Group discussion or baptism of an adult.

45. In addition, we have joined forces with St. Monica's and St.

parishes in the RCIA process of evangelization. This contact with other parishes enriches the convert process for everyone.

46. Clown in classroom.

46. Another source of enrichment is our Fun in the Sun program for school age children. During this two week period in the summertime,

47. Teacher in classroom

47. our children enjoy such things as crafts, entertainment, drama, games

48. Nursing home scene

48. and even very uplifting visits to the elderly at a nearby nursing home. We found that the children were just great with our seniors and they in turn had a rare chance to enjoy young people.

49. Party at Danforth
Towers

49. The parish also has an active program of visitation to the elderly and shut-ins. Here you see two of our workers celebrating St. Patrick's day with an elderly parishioners at Danforth Towers.

50. Communion to a
shut in.

50. The sacraments are important too. Approximately 40 of our parishioners who are shut-ins receive a visit at least once a month when communion and the sacraments are brought to them.

51. Blessing a throat

51. Our priests also serve as relief chaplains at St. Mary's Hospital one day a week. We feel a strong link with St. Mary's is important. In terms of public health, we are in a high risk area and often have opportunities to refer people to St. Mary's for medical care.

52. All Type slide with the following words:

BLOCK PARTY

Make the Bulls Head area free of drugs!

53. Photo or well dressed man driving up to a drug house

54. Policeman standing at squad car.

55. Title Slide:

FUNDING

- . Sunday Collections
- . Diocesan Grants
- . Foundation Grants
- . Annual Dinner
- . Gifts/Donations

52. Another outreach activity which is still a dream at present is to have a block party with the residents and homeowners this summer, and declare the neighborhood "free of drugs".

53 Our experience has been that many people who purchase drugs come from outside the neighborhood. They are often well-dressed suburbanites and professionals.

54. If we can discourage them from coming to the Bulls Head area, the drug traffic will soon dry up and our neighborhood will be a much better place to live in. A Block Party, well publicized by the media and supported by police action will go a long way toward achieving this goal.

55. From all this, you can see that we have a very large operation at SS. Peter & Pauls. And you might be wondering how we pay for all this. Well, we have funding from many different sources:

First, there is our regular Sunday collection, and this is not too large, as you might imagine. The number of parishioners is small and a large percentage are elderly.

Second, we receive grants from the Diocese, that are underwritten by the Thanksgiving Appeal. Bishop Clark has taken an active interest in the parish because a Christian Center is so vital to the area.

Third, we have received grants from various foundations such as the

Rochester Area Foundation and the Fred and Kay Wilmott Foundation. These are often for a very specific purpose such as the recent renovation of the Kitchen.

Fourth, there is an annual Fund Raising Dinner that has been an excellent source of revenue.

And lastly, there are the gifts and donations that come to us on a steady basis. Sometimes it is amazing how money comes just in time to meet a financial crisis.

The generosity of so many people is very heartwarming and a positive source of encouragement for us.

56. Sunrise Scene

56. Where do we go from here? Well, as I said at the beginning, we feel that a new dawn kind of Resurrection is taking place at SS. Peter & Pauls. The spirit of God is breathing new life into not only the parish but into the volunteers who come from all parts of the metro area.

57. Picture of School

57. And we have only just begun to help God's poor. This year we will begin to convert the grammar school building into low-cost housing apartments. We will lease the building to the Rochester Housing Authority who will handle all details of rehabilitation and occupancy.

58. Type Slide

VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED

58. Next, we are most eager to expand our services and here is where you can help. We need volunteers to help set up and lead programs in the following areas:

59. Type Slide

59. Job Counselling. Providing job

COMMUNITY NEEDS

- . Job Counselling

referrals and teaching people how to fill out application forms, write resumes, find job opportunities, conduct themselves during an interview.

60. COMMUNITY NEEDS

- . Job Counselling
- . Literacy Skills

60. Literacy skills. Helping people to learn to read and write. You'd be surprised how many of our guests are illiterate.

61. COMMUNITY NEEDS

- . Job Counselling
- . Literacy Skills
- . Parenting Skills

61. Parenting Skills. We're finding that parents of the children in our Day Care Center are beginning to ask for help in raising their children. Here's a great opportunity to pass on wisdom that we often take for granted and show parents how they can build beautiful young people and strong family ties,

62. COMMUNITY NEEDS

- . Job Counselling
- . Literacy Skills
- . Parenting Skills
- . Nutrition

62. Nutrition. Our guests need to learn how to prepare a balanced meal. Wise food shopping. Cooking techniques. The dangers of junk foods. What a sad commentary that many of our poor are considered "undernourished." But it is not for lack of food, rather they are missing the right kinds of food.

63. COMMUNITY NEEDS

- Job Counselling
- Literacy Skills
- Parenting Skills
- Nutrition
- Budgeting

63. Budgeting. We have learned to our dismay that many simply do not know how to plan the use of their money. How to buy wisely. How to shop for bargains. How to set up a family budget and plan ahead so as not to run short before the end of the month. They need to learn banking skills as well. Few use banks. They carry cash and too often are vulnerable to being robbed.

64. COMMUNITY NEEDS

- . Job Counselling

64. Health/Human Services. We also need volunteers for liason work with existing health and human services

- . Literacy Skills
- . Parenting Skills
- . Nutrition
- . Budgeting
- . Health/Human
- . Services

programs such as medical care at St. Mary's Hospital, neighborhood crisis intervention, drug rehabilitation and medical information such as AIDS prevention.

65. Volunteers at work

65. Lastly there is need for more helpers in the Kitchen, the Clothes Ministry and the Day Care Center. We welcome any support you can give us, and there is indeed a wide choice of activities.

66. Photo of Spanish poster showing two men embracing

66. To sum up, then, we at SS. Peter & Pauls are on a mission -- to bring Christ to the people of Bulls Head. To build a Christian community of people who love and respect and care for one another.

67. Alternate photo Food Service

67. We invite you to join us so that by our words and our work, we may build up the Body of Christ among these, His very poor children. Of course serving the poor isn't always easy work. Their values are very different from ours. But it is a chance to deepen our spirituality.

68 - 85 Rapid fire sequence of slides to accompany the music.

68. This song by John Michael Talbot puts it another way and shows how our work is to do everything for the greater glory of God.

86. Final Frame - Split image

86. (Play the song, "In my life, Lord, be glorified.)

Bread to a child;
Communion to a child.

End of song. Lights up.
Thank you very much for inviting me to speak to you tonight. Perhaps now you can see some of the wonderful things that are happening at SS. Peter & Pauls

and why we are so excited.

We would love to have you join us.

and now, are there any questions?