



## **ST. LUKE AND ST. BERNARDINE PARISH**

### **Our Parish Vision**

*An important part of Renew My Church is defining the vision for our united parish. Developing this vision has involved the participation of many, especially parishioners who provided nearly 70 words or phrases that have shaped the vision. The parish Communication Team and the Unification Committee wrote, edited and reviewed the statement below. Parishioners are invited to read it, hear it, and, most importantly, pray that together and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our parish will make this vision the reality of our future.*

### **St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish**

We are the united parish of St. Luke and St. Bernardine- a welcoming, inclusive, vibrant and joyful community in Christ on a shared journey of faith. Our hearts are unified, and our arms are open to all individuals and families who seek a spiritual home guided by the Gospel, strengthened by prayer, nourished by the Eucharist, and shaped by the teachings and sacred liturgy of the Catholic Church.

We draw people together through spiritual and social gatherings to support and build relationships with each other and with our Lord. Energized by the blending of our families and ministries, we provide a warm and healing shelter from the challenges of our complex world. We offer lifelong faith formation through our outstanding Catholic school, religious education programs for students and adults, Sacramental preparation, and experiences that encourage exploration, reflection and learning.

Our unified parish, which strives to be a spiritual leader in our communities, has sturdy roots growing from its more than 100-year history. It also has strong, far reaching branches nurtured by our commitment to grow in our faith, and our relationships with one another.

With the grace of the Holy Spirit, the guidance of our pastor and the support of our lay-led ministries we reach out to the poor, the hungry, the disenfranchised, and the wronged. We seek to be Christ's presence, by making our works of friendship, peace and justice bear witness to His gospel message.

St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish is where faith flourishes in River Forest, Forest Park, neighboring communities and beyond.