



## RESURRECTION UNIVERSITY PARISH

### Land Stewardship Committee

#### *A DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH*

(An Op-Ed)

Resurrection University Parish is buzzing with the "new direction" of the Bishop's view as directed to Fr. Joe, pastor. Emphasis is strongly placed on vocations and greater involvement of time, talent, and treasure to student ministry at M.S.U.. That certainly is consistent with the history of the parish, it having begun as a Newman Center—a history somewhat forgotten as new parishioners emerge from the thousands of *visitors-now-citizens* of Bozeman.

Plans are being drawn, pictures taken, budgets balanced and fund drives planned. All good and holy work for the proposed expansion plan. But there is a problem. An oversight, if you will. A lacuna or void in what's happening that could be addressed in the coming Bishop Synod zoom meeting. It is one of those opportunities that doesn't knock twice at the door. It is a diamond in the rough.

Immediately west of the parish boundaries is a large tract of land owned by Lincoln Kagy LLC. The parcel runs from Kagy due South to Lincoln St. Most parishioners know it as the most wonderful display of dandelions and thistle ever seen in Gallatin County. During football season is used partially for car parking. What makes the land unique is the fact there is a historic water route (creek) running through it. The willow patch more or less demarcates the location. A small land acquisition from the parish boundaries westward to Willow Way could provide more than adequate space for a rectory, a social center for M.S.U. students, a Community Garden for Creation Care, a habitat creation for Land Stewardship, and many other spiritual, liturgical, recreational, and educational purposes. All of which would not only serve the bishop's specific goals but present a common theme to unite all parishioners, young as well as, students as well as non-students. It could make Resurrection University Parish the model epicenter for student outreach, parish vocation ministry as well as social and environmental activity.

It can be done. It has been done at other parishes. Money is the least of the problems. Creative, spirit filled, imaginative thinking is the real challenge. The sages have long held that *"what the mind of man can conceive, it can achieve."*

*" The church always arrives on the scene  
a little breathless and a little late. "*

*Bernard Lonergan SJ. CC*

RESURRECTION

# April 1

Springtime

"See how Spring opens  
with disabling cold,

And hunting winds and  
the long-lying snow.

Is it a wonder if the  
buds are slow?



Or where is strength to make the leaf unfold?  
Chilling remembrance of my days of old

Afflicts no less, what yet I hope may blow,  
That seed which the good sower once did sow,....."

Gerard Manley Hopkins

**GREEN LEAF AND LAND STEWARDSHIP** are planning for the "*New Look*" of Resurrection University Parish. Land Stewardship ministry is forming up its part in this plan with a list of lecturers and programs, including book reviews, zoom sharing sessions and the like for the student body all centered on ecology, environmentalism, and the spiritual dimension of the Good Earth. Native American aspects will be a significant part of the written and spoken presentations. And the "old timers" are not to be forgotten and will be a major focus also. REMEMBER PARISH IS MORE THAN A "PLACE WHERE...", IT IS A PEOPLE WHO..."

See [hoechoka.com](http://hoechoka.com) and the tab *Green Leaf* for background.  
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