

United in Faith: Building for the Future

“Where We Stand #4”

My Dear Fellow Parishioners:

As we near the completion of our first liturgical year in the “new” St. Catherine’s, I have great news. I’m very happy and proud to tell you that “our Parish is debt free”. Through your generosity we have avoided years of interest charges on the construction loan we anticipated.

This is the result of all those parishioners who made, completed and in many cases exceeded their pledge. The donations from people outside our faith community was an additional factor. The fund-raising efforts of our Stewardship Committee, the use of Parish savings and the sale of the parish center all helped in this wonderful achievement. The chart below illustrates some of the key financial factors contributing to your success in this endeavor.

Campaign Status:

Parishioner Pledges	306	\$ 1,144,185
Non-Parishioners Pledges	21	\$ 135,010
Amount Pledged		\$ 1,279,196
Payments Over Pledges		\$ 344,063

<u>Campaign Collected</u>		\$ 1,623,259
<u>Parish Contribution</u>		\$ 1,298,272

To Be Collected	\$100,375	
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Parish Center Sale:

<u>Sale Price</u>	\$ 950,000.00	Sale Costs	\$ 56,495.00	Available	\$ 893,505.00
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Total Project:

Professional & Other Svcs.	Various		\$ 707,171
Construction Costs (to date)	P.E.M Constr. & Dev., Co.		\$ 2,938,650
Anticipated Additional Billing	P.E.M Constr. & Dev., Co.		\$ 169,215
Final Construction Cost			\$ 3,815,036

However, there is more work to do. We have incurred some parish expenses during the relocation of sacramental and community functions from the parish center back to our Church. The relocation of the Mary Garden, repair of and additions to the landscaping, additional exterior lighting, the purchase and placement of the storage shed and the construction of a snow canopy outside the Chapel entrance are examples of projects undertaken during our return.

While we have been able to avoid borrowing money, these projects have severely reduced the Parish’s financial reserves. So, before we consider our project finished, I would like to restore this critically important safety net. I believe the tasks necessary to accomplish this are as follows:

1. I would ask parishioners who have not completed their pledge to do so as soon as possible. If that is not possible please call me to see if we can make some alternative arrangement.
2. I would like to request parishioners that have exceeded their pledge, if it is within your ability, please continue your support until the campaign is officially closed.
3. Finally, I would like to ask those parishioners who haven’t been part of our campaign, after seeing and worshipping in our beautiful Church, to prayerfully reconsider supporting our efforts

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You may recall that after every Mass we recited the *Prayer for St. Catherine’s Campaign*. It included the phrase “We thank you now for the gifts of your people and for the work of many hands,”. As we transition from campaigning and construction to our more normal function of faith building, it seems appropriate to thank those who have worked so hard to make all this possible. I’m particularly speaking of our Steering Committee.

To Dan Dawson, Jim Young and Chuck Specht all of whom have continuously aided and supported me, from the first College of Consultors meeting in September 2013 to the present day, I wish to offer my heartfelt thanks and appreciation. In addition, I want to extend that appreciation to all the members of our Steering Committee. In ways too numerous to mention, these volunteers unselfishly offered their time, energy, experience, prodigious talents and financial support in every phase of this project. The Chairpersons and members of the six committees are listed below.

Steering Committee
Dan Dawson Herman Martin Elizabeth Martin Patricia Dziubek Chuck Specht Jim Young Steve Kassebaum

Campaign Sub Committee
Herman & Elizabeth Martin Diane Corrigan Gene Innocenti

Communication Sub Committee
Patricia Dziubek Rich Kopf Chuck LaTournous Helen Nardone

Design & Construction Sub Committees
Chuck Specht Ray Ferraro Joe Quick Paul Sterbenz

Finance & Legal Sub Committee
Jim Young Bob Beylickjian Tom Corrigan Michael Raho

Liturgical Design Sub Committee
Deacons Tony Russo & Steve Kassebaum & Donna Cahill Lori Young

In closing, I wish to thank you for all your prayers. I believe they were truly answered in having this beautiful Church without a huge financial burden.

May God bless you all, or as Tiny Tim said, “God Bless us everyone”,

Yours in Christ

Fr. Chester