

Week 8 Bulletin for April 8/9 (Palm Sunday)

Taking our Past into the Future: *Continuing the Journey*

April 9, 2017

Dear Parishioners:

As we continue our journey and look toward a ground breaking in Spring 2018, we need to now focus on the 'nitty gritty' – how is the Parish going to pay for this new building. It is a daunting endeavor and will take all parishioners' support. Yes, you will be asked to prayerfully consider a pledge or gift that you can afford. But there will be other fund raisers as well which will allow everyone to participate – young and old. Consider now how you can help and give us your ideas.

Q. Tell me again – what is the Affordability Study?

A. Our Diocese has encouraged us to carefully examine our Parish's ability to financially support this undertaking and has offered to conduct a study. They will invite a few of us to be interviewed – not to make a pledge or give a gift at that time but to measure our Parish's readiness, financially and every other way to go forward with our VISION.

Q. When will you start asking for money?

A. The Capital Campaign Committee's function is to define our fund raising strategy. The initial phase will focus on a pledge campaign, similar to what we have done in the past. Each family will be asked to donate an amount their budget will allow. We propose beginning that process in September 2017.

Q. How long will the campaign go on?

A. Our current plan is to set up a three year campaign, meaning we will ask for pledges to be paid off before or by the end of three years AND we will be conducting fundraisers during that time as well.

Q. What are some other fund-raisers that you are considering?

A. A number of parishioners have already given us some ideas as we set up that next phase; they include:

- Naming opportunities – a pledge could be made for a designated piece of work in the new building, as big as paying for the elevator to as small as a plaque on a piece of furniture.
- Bequeaths – while these will not be 'ready cash', they will ensure the Parish that income will be eventually available.
- Buying a brick – recycling the bricks from the Rectory could be purchased and used as part of the walkway.
- Raffles – 50/50, car, cruise – all these will be considered.
- Reaching out to adult children who have moved away from the Parish, who might want to 'remember their loved ones', was recommended.
- Establish a 'piggy bank' in the Church basement where the children can be engaged by bringing in their nickels, dimes, and quarters.
- Holding dinners, fairs, BBQs, etc.

This is a Parish effort and every dollar is important. We look forward to your participation in whatever way possible for you. God bless.

Rev. Clement Vadakkedath, C.Ss.R.