



Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
528 E. Stein Highway PO Box 719 Seaford, DE 19973

Pastor's Perspective

December 15, 2018

Advent Penance Service

The advent penance service will take place on December 18, Tuesday at 7.00 PM. We will have a very short service followed by individual confessions. The focus of the evening will be on personal repentance and individual confessions. We have requested priests from our neighboring parishes to assist us in celebrating this sacrament in a meaningful and fruitful way. Father Paul and I have been visiting other parishes during the season to be part of their celebration of the sacrament of Reconciliation. Please look at the celebration as a time of special grace and an opportunity given to us to make peace with God and one another.

Capital Campaign Update: Continuing the Journey

We had the Capital Campaign kickoff in September with a view to demolishing our existing office building which has been a health hazard for over a decade and building a new one with improved access to the Church and classrooms. As usual, our parish has been extremely responsive and generous to the campaign; to date we have received pledges/cash for over 377,000. 00 which includes pledges from nearly 125 families and one-time gifts. On your behalf I want to congratulate the Squires (the youth wing of the Knights of Columbus) who have set an example for us by raising \$675 for the campaign and the Religious Education children who have raised nearly \$50 by depositing pennies into the special box set up for the campaign and the breakfast club of the parish who have put in \$800. This not only assures us that we are well on our way to reach our goal but also provides confidence that by working together we will prove to be a living example of Christ's Church.

If you have not made your pledge or given your donation, I eagerly wait to hear from you. Even if you cannot do something this moment, I encourage you to give what you can when you can and use the blue envelopes found in the pews for one-time gifts. We truly want this campaign to reflect FULL participation among all parishioners, even our children. As a reminder for those who have not participated yet, if you have not yet obtained a Campaign Booklet, copies are available at the back of the church. You are welcome to contact Jean Edwards, Capital Campaign Chair, with any questions regarding giving towards the campaign.

Many of you have expressed interest in the naming opportunities, which is a wonderful way to memorialize your loved ones. We will be developing a final list of those opportunities once the building specifications are completed and then contact each of you who have shown an interest in doing this. I also would like to assure those of you who contributed early, that your pledge and/or donation is being credited toward the campaign. We thank you for those early gifts and the support they represented.

This is an exciting and challenging time for our parish - thank you again for your support and prayers.

Please find below an update from the Master Planning Committee on the progress we have made so far.

Your Pastor

Fr. Clement Vadakkedath, C.Ss.R.

Fellow parishioners:

In parallel to the ongoing efforts associated with the Capital Campaign, the Master Planning Committee has continued to work proactively to keep to the project going forward. To that end, we are pleased to report that all preliminary plans have been approved by all the various Diocesan committees, including the Vicar General. Likewise, the City of Seaford, County of Sussex and State of Delaware, county and state fire marshals, have also approved all our plans.

Our Architect is currently finalizing the drawing package such that we can start the multiple contractor bidding process by January 2019. Our current goal is to have the final plans in place, including all execution approvals and contractor selection / negotiation by March. This will allow to break ground in spring, with a targeted project completion by 2019-year end. Thanks for your continuing and future support in turning the plans into reality.

Gregory Morano
Master Planning Committee Chair