



FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JONATHAN

JULY 16, 2017

This is an important weekend for our parish for two reasons.

First, and most importantly, our high school youth group is on their three-day spiritual retreat in upstate New York. Almost as soon as registration opened, the retreat was booked to capacity. These are young people in our neighborhood who, for the most part, are already active in the youth group every week. This retreat will be a moment of deep encounter with God and a time for life-changing decisions. Let's storm the heavens in prayer for them.

Secondly, this weekend is the "in-pew offering" for our "Renew and Rebuild" capital campaign. I will speak at all of the masses about the capital improvements that have been completed and that are still underway. I will also ask that every parishioner or family make a long-term commitment to help pay for these important projects. I am very aware that some of you have already given all that you can. And I am grateful! I am also aware that some of you are in a difficult financial situation and can't give as much as you would like. I get it! Don't give more than you should.

What I am asking, however, is that everyone give something, and that everyone give as much as they believe God would want them to give.

For this campaign, the Archdiocese asked us to raise \$450,000. I proposed to you several months ago that we try to raise \$500,000 instead. Guess what? As of yesterday, even before this "in-pew offering" weekend, from parishioners and neighborhood people alone, we have already reached seventy-four percent (74%) of our goal!! Incredible!!

I was told when I arrived here that raising money in this parish was like trying to get water out of rocks. YOU all have proven that wrong.

I believe this weekend we can finish the job. God will never be outdone in generosity. Thank you for inspiring me every day! And remember to pray for our youth!

**God Bless,
Father Jonathan**

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