

May 23, 2019

Dear St. Peter Church and School Community,

It is with much joy that I share with you the progress of our building project which will accommodate the growing needs of our church and school community. As stated in my last letter to you, after many months of prayer and preparatory work including the approval from our Pastoral and Financial Councils and the School Advisory Board, I moved forward last November presenting a request for a four million dollar loan to the Financial Council of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The loan was approved. An architectural firm has since been designing and preparing construction documents for a 19,660 square foot, two-story building to accommodate our pressing needs.

Over the past months, the proposed architectural plans have been reviewed and revised meticulously keeping in mind two prominent factors: our needs and the cost of the project. The construction documents are to be completed during the first week of June. After the documents have been completed, our next stage involves permit reviews, parish review and the final analysis and comments from the Archdiocesan Building Office. I am hopeful that bidding for the project will begin in early July. To prepare for the construction of the new building, the School Administration Building and Key Cottage will be demolished before August. Construction is proposed to commence by the end of August or early September and the projected time frame for completion is one year. As we know, many factors can either work in favor of or against the projected time frame. All of that is in the hands of the Lord as we are aware some factors are beyond our control.

St. Peter Parish is anchored in a deep abiding faith which is evident in the many ways we care for each other. There is no doubt that this building will be a sign that TOGETHER WE GROW as a church and school community. The more important aspect though is that TOGETHER WE GROW spiritually with this opportunity to bring *Glory to God* through and in the sacrifices we will be called to make, until we reach completion. This building will be a testament to the current generosity of St. Peter Parish as we build on our strong tradition as a parish.

May our spirituality of knowing who we are and who we are called to be as Disciples of Christ permeate every aspect of what we do as we move forward with the construction of this building. May our actions, deeply rooted in prayer, say loudly to ourselves and to others: TOGETHER WE GROW at St. Peter Parish. May all that we do be done for the *Glory of God* because of His everlasting love and generosity to St. Peter Parish.

Rejoice with me as we take these next steps.

God Bless,

*Fr. Otis W. Young, Jr.*

Pastor of St. Peter Parish