

September 1, 2019

PROGRESS REPORT ON PHASE 3 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Dear Parishioners,

Some good news! We have made much progress in designing and costing the Third and Final Phase of our Capital Campaign.

We have already written to you about the preliminary design of Phase 3 (earlier weekly bulletin, flocknotes, and pulpit announcements). Now the time has come to implement these Phase 3 investments.

We are most grateful to the Parish and Finance Councils, who represent you and also are my eyes and my ears to have your viewpoints. They have been kept informed every month of the work of our Building Project Committee, which, under the able leadership of Dick Potter, our volunteer Project Manager has been overseeing the implementation of all three Phases. Thanks also go to all the members of this Project Committee.

At my request, and under short notice, the Project Manager has sent me the following "bullets" which summarize where we have come from, where we are and where we are going:

"Phase 3 completes original vision of Capital Campaign with better utilization of Church space all staying in existing building footprint.

Recall phase 1 focus was Nave with new pews, new flooring, new glass door entrance, new lighting and refreshed painted walls.

Phase 2 was better use of Social Hall with the moveable partitions and 2 large storage rooms as well as new ceiling tile, lighting and fresh paint colors.

Now phase 3 focus is Narthex:

We add an Adoration Chapel with secure exterior access that will be bright, welcoming, private and comfortable with separate heating and air conditioning.

Also, we add a multipurpose room for use as additional confessional, small meeting space and space for help desk or counseling.

The Narthex will get new tile floor to complement the Nave

The Chapel will get new tile floor.

The Narthex will get a new entrance double door set which will provide visual focus toward the Nave upon entering.

The Narthex will retain plenty of space for fellowship as the "blue tape" shows.

On the exterior, we plan to add a steeple reaching up to 65 feet from the ground to make our church more visible."

In response to comments we have received regarding the above mentioned steeple, we would like to highlight the fact that such steeple was planned from the very first day of this 3-year capital campaign. You may recall that it was drawn on the cover of the initial document package we distributed to parishioners interested to participate. Both the Parish and Finance Councils have fully supported this steeple as an effective way of evangelizing. They have called it "Architectural Evangelization": hopefully, we will become more visible as a church. From contacting people through door to door evangelization, I can say that many in Waldorf still do not know that our building is a church (even if they passed by). We still have people ring our doorbell and asking if we are a library. The steeple will become our point of reference (no longer saying that we are next to the Old Library).

We are most grateful to all of you for the financial contributions you have made in the last three years. The first two Phases fully funded and already implemented have helped us to renovate first our nave (space where we worship) and second our Social Hall (space for meetings, teaching, celebrations and fellowships, now called Father Martin Hall). As of now, we have already received over 90 percent of the funds needed to implement the Third and Final Phase. This allows us to go ahead and initiate the bidding process so that the physical implementation will be completed by March 2020.

As we prepare to launch two weeks from today - Sunday September 15 - the celebration of our 40 YEARS: 1980-2020 ,we will welcome Bishop Dorsonville at our 11:30 am Mass followed by fellowship and PICNIC, let us pray that the HOLY SPIRIT will assist us in learning from the positive lessons of our first 40 years and will continue to GUIDE THE STEPS OF OUR PARISH in the coming months and years.



*One in Christ,
Father Alain*