

St. John Paul II Parish

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Pastor: Rev. Lam T. Le
www.jp2-mqa.org



Dear Parishioners,

I am writing with very exciting and important news. As you know, we are in the midst of a capital campaign to fulfill our plan to build a new church that will meet the needs of our growing faith community by providing a more suitable worship space.

Our plan was to break ground in 2019 after the three-year capital campaign. Our growth in new parishioners has exceeded our estimates and is happening faster than we anticipated. No doubt you have noticed- our small church is packed!

People are coming to Saint John Paul II Parish and finding a welcoming and vibrant faith community. However, we are literally out of space, much sooner than we thought or planned. This poses a problem for us. When they see there isn't space, people turn away. As followers of Jesus, our mission is to spread the Gospel message and make disciples.

I have been closely monitoring our growth and attendance and so has Bishop Walkowiak. I recently had a meeting with the Bishop for a serious discussion on this matter. The Bishop agrees that we must have space for our growing parish family. We discussed the options, and the Bishop and I have agreed that we must move forward with construction of the new church sooner than planned.

However, doing so presents some financial challenges for our Parish. We must continue to advance and accelerate our efforts to reach our capital campaign goal through current pledges, new pledges, gifts, and pledge fulfillment payments. While we work towards that goal, the Bishop has offered us assistance from the Diocesan Savings and Loan Fund. This fund is a joint savings account among the parishes in the Diocese, which can be loaned out for situations like ours. This is not a gift, but a loan that we will be repaying.

With this loan, we will be able to break ground in 2018 on our new church, welcome those searching and thirsting for a relationship with our Lord, and not be forced to turn people away.

I am confident the terms of repayment will fit within our Parish budget. I'm calling on each of you to ensure we fulfill our commitment to the Diocese and ask you to please consider making a new or additional pledge/gift to our capital campaign. Please continue to pray about what sacrifice means for you. We must take on the attitude of our Catholic ancestors, who truly sacrificed and made the building of churches in our Diocese and country a priority in their spending.

In closing, we have much to do, but the Lord is with us and leading us. I am truly humbled with how the Lord has led and continues to lead so many to our Parish. We can and will do this as followers to the call of our Lord, Jesus.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Rev. Lam T. Le, Pastor

United in Christ through the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the welcoming parish of St. John Paul II is to become His hands and feet: His hands by reaching out and serving one another and His feet by journeying together on the narrow path of our faith that leads us closer to Christ.