

GROWING IN GOD'S MERCIFUL LOVE

SAINT
JOHN
PAUL II
PARISH
Cedar Springs, MI



Special Edition Campaign Fact Sheet

September 2016

Growing in God's Merciful Love

Capital Stewardship Campaign

Dear Church family,

Much planning and studying has occurred since 2013 at St. John Paul II Parish to ensure we address all our parish facility needs, maintain fiscal strength, and most importantly, continue our ministries and Catholic presence for years to come. We want to share some important information with you about our facility plans. We wish we could personally visit with each household, but obviously that is not feasible.

On the weekend of September 24/25, at each of the masses, there will be a brief presentation about our capital stewardship campaign, "Growing In God's Merciful Love". Please plan to be present to learn about our plans to address our parish's needs. Following the masses, you will have an opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

For any parishioners unable to attend the September 24/25 weekend masses, the presentation will also be presented the following weekend of October 1/2 after mass. No financial pledges or gifts will be requested or received at these information presentations- they are only informational.

Please plan to be present for one of the presentations. Your attendance and knowledge of our plans is very important. The presentations are designed to not only share information about our facility needs and plans to meet those needs, but also to call our parish family to prayer. This campaign is important and it's vital that every parishioner be informed and participate.

Please read the enclosed information to learn some of the details. As part of our "Growing In God's Merciful Love" campaign, every parish household is asked to pray about your blessings and how you are using them for the work of our Lord through this parish. Eventually everyone will be asked to make a sacrificial commitment (over and above your current giving) to be paid over the next three years. Everyone's participation is needed for our success.

Let us commit to know and do the will of God. He has granted to each of us the privilege of being part of a wonderful, caring, and vibrant Catholic family. This privilege implies a responsibility to share our blessings. To the glory of God, each of us is asked to step forward in faith.

Sincerely,

Rev. Lam T. Le
Pastor

Mindy Larva/Chris Pigorsh
Campaign Co-Chairs

St. John Paul II Parish
3110 17 Mile Rd.
Cedar Springs, MI 49319

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Information Meetings – Several opportunities are available to hear a presentation and ask any questions regarding our "Growing In God's Merciful Love" capital stewardship campaign. Presentations will be held the weekend of September 24/25 during each of the masses with Q&A following mass and the weekend of October 1/2 following each of the Masses. No pledges or commitments will be asked or received at these meetings—they are only informational.

Prayer & Discernment – Before any of us decide what our 3-year sacrificial pledge will be to "Growing In God's Merciful Love", each of us should pray and seek God's will. What will sacrifice mean for each of us?

Commitment Weekend – The weekend of October 29/30 is commitment weekend. The entire parish family will be provided a pledge card and asked to confidentially begin registering their pledge over the next couple weeks. A special reception will be planned following the 10:30am Sunday mass to commemorate this historic time in the life of our parish. Everyone is invited regardless of which mass you attend. More details will be forthcoming.

Commitment Contacts – Parishioners who did not make a commitment by November 15 will be contacted by parish volunteers during November 15-20 to simply remind and encourage them to register their intention by completing a confidential pledge card. The volunteers will not ask for any information regarding your pledge.

Announcement Weekend – On the weekend of November 26/27, we will announce the total amount pledged thus far to our "Growing In God's Merciful Love" capital stewardship campaign.

Background

St. John Paul II Parish has been experiencing tremendous growth since our beginning in 2013. Shortly after opening on July 6, 2013, we had 60 registered households. Today, we have over 340 families and are projected to grow to 600 families by 2018.

Because of parish growth and continued strong participation in our various parish ministries and programs, a master plan for our campus was developed. In accordance with that plan, we renovated and upgraded our kitchen for our internal use and to continue our outreach ministry. We also renovated our lounge and added space for ministry and faith formation programs.

People looking for a spiritual home want a place where they feel welcome and where they feel there is room. Studies show that when a church is at 80% occupancy or more, new people and visitors do not feel welcome and as a result will not attend the church. Although our current church is not very old, we are already crowded in the pews. Our masses are full. Families are often challenged to find a place to sit together. Parishioners are sometimes forced to sit in the narthex. And some masses are so full that people simply leave upon realizing there is no space for them. Sadly, we are turning people away.

We are doing great things to draw people to us. But we must do something to take care of those who are already here, as well as new people coming, to ensure we have the space to continue to invite new families to Saint John Paul II Parish.

The new church will be built to meet our immediate and near-future needs. However, we've planned according to our long-term anticipated growth. The new church will be designed to have expansions that can be completed in phases over time as those long-term projections become a reality.

Facility Features

Our current church is approximately 2,300 square feet and designed to seat 150, but sometimes we've been squeezing in nearly 190. The first phase of the new church will be 5,100 square feet and accommodate 312 people with flexibility to allow 75 more seats for peak Holy Days and other special occasions.

The new church will be more accessible, including a new sound system with a hearing loop, a larger narthex to meet and greet, and a covered portico for comfort and safety when arriving and departing church, as well as for gatherings outside.

The plan also includes a rectory on campus that will give us the structure to grow, protect, and nurture our sacramental ministries. Providing a home for our priest will make him more readily available. It will also allow us to invite a retired priest, visiting priest, or seminarian to come, stay, and participate in our church life. We will also have space for an associate pastor when our growth reaches that level.

| The Numbers | Costs | | Funding | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| | Finished main floor new church.... | \$1,787,000 | Parish Campaign | \$1,000,000 |
| | Unfinished Lower level..... | \$ 476,000 | Outside Parish | \$1,000,000 |
| | Rectory | \$ 200,000 | Diocesan Loan | \$2,000,000 |
| | Sitework allowance | \$ 600,000 | Total Funding | \$4,000,000 |
| | Furnishings allowance..... | \$ 226,000 | | |
| | Fees..... | \$ 300,000 | | |
| | Contingency | \$ 411,000 | | |
| | Total Expected Costs | \$4,000,000 | | |

How Can I Contribute?

The following chart illustrates the types of three-year pledges (over and above regular giving) needed to reach our \$1M financial goal. Everyone in our parish family is needed. Where on the chart is "sacrifice" for you?

| Gifts Needed | Total Gift | Optional 10% Initial Payment | Remaining Balance | Payment Options | | | Cumulative Total |
|--------------|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| | | | | Monthly(36) | Quarterly(12) | Annually(3) | |
| Tier 1 | | | | | | | |
| 2 | \$50,000 | \$5,000 | \$45,000 | \$1,250 | \$3,750 | \$15,000 | \$100,000 |
| 4 | 25,000 | 2,500 | 22,500 | 625 | 1,875 | 7,500 | 200,000 |
| 8 | 15,000 | 1,500 | 13,500 | 375 | 1,125 | 4,500 | 320,000 |
| 10 | 10,000 | 1,000 | 9,000 | 250 | 750 | 3,000 | 420,000 |
| Tier 2 | | | | | | | |
| 20 | \$8,000 | \$800 | \$7,200 | \$200 | \$600 | \$2,400 | \$580,000 |
| 20 | 6,000 | 600 | 5,400 | 150 | 450 | 1,800 | 700,000 |
| 25 | 4,000 | 400 | 3,600 | 100 | 300 | 1,200 | 800,000 |
| 20 | 3,000 | 300 | 2,700 | 75 | 225 | 900 | 860,000 |
| Tier 3 | | | | | | | |
| 35 | \$2,000 | \$200 | \$1,800 | \$50 | \$150 | \$600 | \$930,000 |
| 40 | 1,000 | 100 | 900 | 25 | 75 | 300 | 970,000 |
| 30 | 750 | 75 | 675 | 19 | 56 | 225 | 992,500 |
| Remainder | \$500 or less | \$50 or less | \$450 or less | \$13 or less | \$38 or less | \$150 or less | \$1,000,000 |

Capital Campaign Prayer

Lord God, We gather together in your name. We acknowledge your loving presence among us. We ask you to help us to recognize the many gifts we have received from You. We thank you, in particular, for calling us to serve you.

Bless the work of our hands, minds and hearts as we seek to use the gifts and talents you have given us to plan for the future church in our midst.

Set us on the right path to become good stewards of all you have entrusted to us. Bless our growing community, so that we may move forward in faith together.

We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.