

Nov. 8 & 9, 2014

All Saints Parish – Capital Fund

For those of you I haven't met yet, my name is Eric Greenfield. My family, including my wife Brenda and daughter Abby have been coming to All Saints since about the time you all formed this parish six years ago. We came initially with our neighbors who were excited to share your incredible welcome and evangelization; and we ultimately converted from our Presbyterian and Methodist roots through the RCIA process because of the overwhelming presence of the Holy Spirit we witnessed and felt among you all in this parish.

I'm sure you would all agree with me, that every day this parish continues to live, grow, and spread the Gospel message through our servant-leader Fr. Fred Daly, our parish leadership team, and our many missions. But more importantly, the Love of God has grown through all of us, the Body of Christ, and our generous contribution of prayers, time, talent, and treasure to each other and to our outreach.

To this day, it still amazes me how much this small and humble parish does, and how many lives it touches. Today, I'm here to talk about how we will maintain and expand our mission so that we can reach out to more folks as we continue our spiritual journey together.

Last week, Jack Ziegler, facilitator of our pastoral council, introduced our capital campaign and explained why and how we came to our decision to initiate this new challenge in our parish. We are embarking on a three to five year \$350,000 project.

In this campaign, the money will be used

- to finish the already amazing renovations to the Bishop Harrison Center including a much-needed elevator,
- to restore the front of the church,
- to install another bathroom in the church,
- and to expand the parish leadership team, which will help us
 - manage our campus,
 - maintain and enhance our missions,
 - prepare for the future,
 - and perhaps most importantly, enable our Fr. Fred to focus on his true vocation... providing his loving pastoral care and sacramental service, and guiding our parish's continued spiritual growth in the Gospel.

As with all of our work here at All Saints, the campaign will truly require support from our whole community to achieve our goals. All of us will have an opportunity to be a part of this campaign, no matter what amount is pledged. As we review the handouts together, you will see that even a small contribution adds up to a significant gift over the three to five year period.

The ushers will now distribute the campaign materials, and we'll review how this works.

I am hoping that this handout will answer your questions and address your concerns so that when Fr. Fred and our trustee and co-chair of the finance committee Rita Reicher lead us in our Commitment Weekend next week, you will have the information you need as you prayerfully consider making a pledge.

Before we go over some of the details, I'd like to mention how your gift may be recognized on the Tree of Life.

The Tree of Life is a large display that will provide a lasting remembrance to your generosity.

- You may use this opportunity to memorialize or honor a loved one;
- you may choose to simply list your family name;
- or you may decide to commemorate a joyous event in your life.

On that note, and on behalf of Fr. Fred and our parish leadership team, I want to acknowledge all of our parishioners for the sacrifices and contributions of your prayers, time, talent and treasure that continue to sustain our parish and its outreach.

I am pleased to report that we have already begun receiving pledges, and we are on our way to making our goal.

Now that you have the handout, let's review the suggested gift plans on the back page.

At this point, I should emphasize that these are only **SUGGESTED** pledge amounts. Our parish campaign request, while sacrificial, should **NOT** cause any of us undue hardship.

Please know that we are all aware of our parish's broad range of family and individual financial circumstances, so consider what you can give and be assured that **ANY** and **ALL** pledges will be joyously received.

Like most of you, my family lives on a monthly budget because that's how the bills are paid. And, when it comes to larger purchases like appliances, a car, or the house, we find these costs are more manageable when we pay in installments over a period of time.

So when I think about our pledge as a monthly payment, it becomes much easier to see where the giving fits in with the rest of our monthly obligations. However, if a monthly payment doesn't work for you, you can pick the payment option that best fits you...quarterly, semi-annual, or annual payments.

This is the greatest advantage of a pledge vs. a one-time gift. By spreading the gift over time, we can make a substantial and meaningful contribution that truly fits our family finances.

Let's take a closer look at how the installment plan works with our campaign.

Take a pledge at the Pacesetter level: When paying the \$3,600 gift on a monthly basis for 3 years, the payment each month is \$100. When paying the gift over five years, that's \$60 per month.

Now look at a pledge on the "Sustaining" level...it amounts to only a dollar a day or \$30 per month.

Again, it all depends on your monthly family budget.

Now, I'll go over just a few of the Frequently Asked Questions.

We have addressed the first couple of questions, and to prepare for winter, the stabilization to the front of the church is happening now.

USE materials noting the following

Read Q3 – And that's very important because the buildings and grounds, finance, and pastoral committees are thoughtfully preparing for future expenses such as the roofs and heating plants.

Read Q5- And for those of you wondering about how this affects our Hope Appeal assessment by the diocese.... The diocese understands that this work is necessary to maintain our parish and the campaign giving will not raise our annual assessment.

Read Q8- At the same time, if you are blessed with increased earnings during the campaign, please consider giving a little more.

Next week, everyone in the parish will be receiving a brochure mailing from Father Fred and the parish leadership team. Next weekend, you'll be invited to make your pledge, as Fr. Fred and Rita guide us through the process.

Starting in January 2015, you will be sent reminders based on the monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual payment schedule that you indicate on the pledge card. It would be helpful if you could make a 10% down payment before the end of the year to get the process started.

During this week, please dedicate some time to prayerful discernment and thoughtful consideration so that you are prepared to make your pledge next weekend.

We want to thank you all for being attentive and receptive to our capital campaign message; we truly appreciate it. It is not easy to talk

about money, and especially for an effort that requires all of us to think about how much more we can give when we already give so generously at All Saints.

I agreed to talk to you about this today because you are all so very thoughtful and generous, and I have no doubt that we will reach our goal and live our mission: to be an open and welcoming Catholic Christian Community joyfully grounded in the Eucharist that strives to live the Gospel call to holiness and loving service to all.

To conclude, let us read the Campaign Prayer together.