

PRINCE OF PEACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

August 2/3, 2015

Dear Friends

Last weekend at all Masses I announced that we have a debt repayment plan in place to pay off our building loan of \$158,000 and our school operating debt of \$200,000. We will pay the \$158,000 building loan from existing funds we have on hand and Friends of Shawe and Pope John have generously agreed to pay the school operating debt of \$200,000 over a five year period. We are debt free for the first time in many years! Now that our debt repayment plan is completed the Archdiocese has approved a parish fundraising campaign for our church building needs. We are now able to proceed with fundraising and then the repairs and renovation of the STEE-
PLE, Interior and Exterior Repairs etc.

The Archdiocese has given us specific guidelines that are to be followed during our fundraising and projects. We will not borrow money to do these projects and will not begin any work until we have the money in hand. The Archdiocese requires us to work with “The Covenant Group”, a fundraising firm from Louisville, Kentucky which has had great success with fundraising for Catholic Churches. Covenant group has never had a Catholic Church fail to achieve its goal. In fact they average 155% of parish goals.

Since I will be on sabbatical in Israel from August 17th to December 15th we have decided not to begin the fundraising campaign until I return. This will not slow down the needed steeple repairs as we cannot get those scheduled until this spring. The fundraising commitment weekend will take place at Masses on the weekend of April 9th and 10th. Covenant’s approach to fundraising is “Instead of a few people doing a lot of things; a lot of people do a few things.” We will need many volunteers with a diverse set of talents. Covenant Group will train and support all volunteers. I would like to have in place the **General Campaign Co-Chairs** (Covenant Group suggests 2 to 4 people) and the **Campaign Coordinators** (Covenant Group suggests 3 –each coordinator works with 2 committees to ensure everything gets done in time) named before I leave on August 17th. If you feel the Holy Spirit calling you to any of these ministry roles of leadership please contact me. If you are asked to take on one of these roles please prayerfully consider it.

Past generations have provided much of what we have today and we have the responsibility for providing for the future of our Catholic Community. It will take sacrifice but remember all the people who sacrificed for us during the last 180 years of the Catholic Church in Madison and Jefferson County. We invite and encourage you to be a part of **your** capital campaign! Saint Paul reminds us in his letters that “We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us for with Christ nothing is impossible!”

Peace and Blessings,

Fr. Chris



OVERVIEW OF TIMELINE

MAY 2014

Visionary Meeting with Parish to discuss Church Repair Needs and possible relief of \$600,000 parish and school debt. Leaving us with a debt of \$358,000 and the need to develop a five year plan to repay the Archdiocese.

OCTOBER 2014

Engineering Assessment Complete by ARCEE Engineering Firm

FEBRUARY 2015

Archdiocese requires Feasibility Study to be done before fundraising or work can begin.

MARCH 2015

Feasibility Study conducted

MAY 2015

Results of Feasibility Study – \$1.3 Million

- Very Positive
- Confirmed and validated the strengths and willingness of our parish
- Strong commitment to repairing church building and paying off debt
- Some concern about getting whole parish involved
- Communication needs to be improved between Parish Leadership and Parishioners
- See the Feasibility study report at our website at popeace.org

JUNE / JULY 2015

Completion of Debt Repayment Plan and Archdiocese approval of Church Fundraising Campaign with Covenant Group

AUGUST 2015 – Preparation for Fundraising Campaign and Recruitment of Leadership

APRIL 9-10, 2016 – Commitment Weekend.

Initiatives for work will be completed in the following order unless for unseen reasons we need to re-order them.

- ✦ Initiative #1- Immediate Needs
 - ✦ Steeple and Roof Repairs - \$200,000
 - ✦ Interior Repairs - \$35,000
 - ✦ Other Exterior Repairs - \$110,00
 - ✦ Church Emergency Fund - \$150,000 (future needs for HVAC and sound system etc.)
 - ✦ Architectural and Engineering Costs -\$45,000
 - TOTAL IMMEDIATE NEEDS = \$540,000**
- ✦ Initiative #2-Visionary Needs
 - ✦ Stained Glass Window Repair - \$620,000
 - ✦ Church Roof Replacement - \$40,000
 - ✦ Conversion of old rectory space adjacent to Church to better parish use: (gathering space, kitchen, restrooms etc) - \$200,000
 - ✦ Building, purchase, or renovation of an existing property or purchase for priest housing -\$125,000
 - TOTAL VISIONARY NEEDS = \$985,000**

TOTAL IMMEDIATE AND VISIONARY NEEDS = \$1,525,000.

Prince of Peace Parish has approximately \$122,000 for the campaign in the Steeplechase account. We also have received two grants a Congregation Resource Grant for \$15,000 and an Archdiocese Combined Grant for \$19,000 for the Feasibility study and building assessment and engineering fees.

