



LETTER FROM THE PASTOR REGARDING UPDATE ON THE NEW CHURCH BUILDING CAMPAIGN

February 25, 2024

Dear Parishioners of Saint Thomas More Church,

I have been working diligently the past year to get the big pieces in place to begin our final push towards the building of a new church. I believe we are in a good place, and we are ready to move earnestly forward. It took some time, but we have assembled a dream team of highly competent professionals in the fields of architecture, construction, fundraising, and the liturgical arts, and they have been working to develop a beautiful yet feasible scope for our building project. In addition, I have been in consultation with a campaign advisory committee comprised of parishioners who have been immensely helpful. The tremendous sacrifices of so many people have resulted in raising \$10,400,000 to date. This gives me great inspiration and presents a crucial responsibility (and pressure!) to carry forth this mission with all my heart.

While we have had to scale back the scope of the original concept of the building to fit our fundraising potential, we will still build a beautiful house for the Lord. The size of the church will be larger than our current hall. None of the plans are set in stone yet and the details of the building will be directly tied to the success of our capital campaign. In case you don't know, we currently celebrate Mass in our hall. It is a very nice building, but we need a new church that glorifies the majesty of Christ. Our church will be constructed on the large lawn. Look for the cross that shows the location of the future altar. Also, after building a new church we will be able to create in the hall much needed meeting spaces.

We are currently in an assessment phase being conducted by our capital campaign consulting firm, and it seems that we are on an exciting trajectory. We will soon be updating you about the findings of this assessment and how we all can take part in creating history. We hope that by June of this year, we will be launching the public phase of our the new campaign. If all goes well, perhaps we can break ground in the Fall of 2025! It will not be without sacrifice from every person.

Finally, allow me to share from my heart that it never ceases to amaze me to see the spirit, the sacrifices and the faithfulness of the people of God. I join with you in expressing our deep love for Jesus Christ. Let us join together to build a place that exults and glorifies the most precious gift of the Holy Eucharist – a house for his tabernacle. We build for the Eucharist, the greatest sign of God's love for his people.

May God bless our beautiful community of Saint Thomas More Church.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Eugene Lee.
Pastor