It is with great humility, a deep belief in Saint Gabriel Parish and excitement about strengthening and uniting the many parts of this parish that we agreed to serve as co-chairs of the *Many Parts*, *One Body* Capital Campaign.

A little bit about us:

We are parents and grandparents representing 4 generations.

It is here at Saint Gabriel that many of our children were baptized, celebrated first communion and reconciliation and were confirmed.

Our children are the products of Catholic schooling and we are passionate about ensuring that the 128-year tradition of Catholic education at this parish thrives for generations to come!



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Our children and grandchildren have been and continue to be formed by dynamic religious education and youth ministry programs. We believe growing these programs is of the utmost importance!

We participate in adult faith formation and scripture studies.

We volunteer as ushers and greeters, lectors and Eucharistic ministers, for Saint Vincent de Paul, the dinner auction and flea market.

We attend different weekend Masses, and some of us are blessed to have the time to attend daily Mass throughout the week.

We are believers in the power of prayer and the benefits of worshiping together.

We represent many parts of Saint Gabriel Parish.

Our story is like that of so many people in this parish. And like you, we are tremendously grateful for all that the parish does to help us grow as people of faith. We are blessed to call this parish home, and the people of the parish, family.

The Many Parts, One Body campaign is about many different things. It is about fulfilling our mission: to proclaim Christ and make disciples through the sacramental life of the Church. It is about achieving the vision set forth when Saint Gabriel Church was built. It is about uniting our physical plant on one campus. It is about having adequate, functional space for multiple ministries in order to effectively deliver our evangelization, education and fellowship programs. It is about building the kingdom of God!

We echo Fr. Tim's request and ask that you join us in prayer for the success of the campaign; that you share the good news about Saint Gabriel; and that you generously support the campaign financially to whatever extent that you can.

As we embark on this campaign, we do so trusting in God, guided by the Holy Spirit, and confident that through Him, with Him and in Him, the *Many Parts of the One Body* that is Saint Gabriel Parish will grow stronger.

Sincerely,

Tom and Kathy Balistreri

Tony and Jodi Consiglio

Karl and Diana Glunz

Bill and Mary Jo Humpal

and Mary Jo Humpsl

We are many parts. We are all one body. And the gifts we have, we are given to share. May the Spirit of Love, make us one in deed. One the love that we share, one our hope in despair, one the cross that we bear.

The words of this beautiful song by Marty Haugen serve as the theme for our Capital Campaign: *Many Parts, One Body*. You might even call this our campaign theme song!

11 months ago today, October 18, 2015, I shared with you my Saint Gabriel State of the Parish Report. I wrote, "There is a strong desire in the parish to deepen our knowledge of the faith and spiritual life, to expand the



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impact and outreach of our ministries, and to be bold in our plans for the future. This desire is real and tangible – I can feel it, smell it, and taste it! I am so grateful to be a part of this dynamic, growing parish."

And so, here we are! Those words are as true today as they were then. Today, we formally and officially announce the beginning of our *Many Parts, One Body* Capital Campaign. This theme was chosen because of the overwhelming support for the number one recommendation that came from our Needs Assessment and Capital Campaign planning efforts:

To create one central campus to advance the mission of the entire parish community and for use by all the ministries of the parish including shared space to be used by the school, religious education, adult faith formation, prayer and worship and human concerns.

Out of these words, a conceptual, schematic drawing was created with the input of numerous parishioners representing all ministries. Today, our efforts to transform those words and that concept into reality begin!

As we embark on this campaign, I ask of you three things:

- 1. To join in fervent prayer for the success of this campaign.
- 2. To spread the good news about what is happening at Saint Gabriel.
- 3. To financially support this campaign as generously as you can.

Thank you in advance for your participation. You are one of the *many parts* that make up *the body* of Saint Gabriel Parish. The Holy Spirit is alive and well here. I am grateful, humbled and honored to serve as your pastor at this exciting moment in our history.

God Bless!

Fr. Tim Bickel

Pastor

PS - Do you have the goose flesh? I do!

Please join us in helping to strengthen the *Many Parts, One Body* that is Saint Gabriel Parish.