



Dear Parishioner,

We have much to be grateful for as a faith community of **St. Kunegunda of Poland** Catholic Church in Sugar Camp. Many of us have enriched our spiritual lives here and shared educational opportunities. Some have professed their love in a marriage commitment or laid a loved one to rest, while others have made it a regular place of worship and reflection. Our parish has been a gathering place of fellowship and prayer since 1898, and we are very proud of our legacy and offerings to our parishioners and guests. Standing on the shoulders of those who came before us, we serve as a home for our spiritual family, a haven for our guests and seekers, a place to belong, whoever we are just as we are.

Earlier this spring we shared with much excitement, Bishop Powers approval of our building project proposal, with groundbreaking happening by summer! As many of you know, an enhanced worship space as well as a hall to gather and further grow, as a faith community has been a long awaited dream. There have been many selfless hours given by individuals over the years to help make this dream a possibility. However, just as our kickoff plans really started to take shape, our world drastically changed, illness struck, gatherings were limited, businesses were shut down and uncertainties about the future loomed. As a result of the quickly changing environment and out of concern and respect for our parishioners, the Parish Council with input from our Building Committee, Finance Council, Capital Campaign Committee and the Diocese made the very difficult decision to delay the ground breaking and building project until spring 2021.

However, drawing on the strength of our ancestors we remain strong with our eyes and hearts focused on the end goal, a successful building project to expand and reconfigure our worship and gathering space. The approved plans include construction of a parish hall equipped with a kitchen for funeral luncheons, faith formation activities, meals, large meetings and special events. The hall will be attached to the existing rectory and connected to the church with a walkway that includes handicap accessible restrooms, please see the enclosed design for details. In addition, the current sacristy will be relocated within the rectory to allow for proper contemplation and preparation before mass. The reconciliation room will also be relocated behind the sanctuary where the restrooms are currently located offering a more private and suitable space.

Although we need to wait yet another year to witness the construction, we believe the time between now and then may be a hidden blessing. Meaning now is the time to:

- Ensure all of our parishioners and guests are aware of our future plans
- Share the associated benefits of our project

- Address any questions or concerns you may have

Additionally, now is also the time to be intentional with our actions to ensure our financial viability. We believe lending will be necessary to get us through the project. Therefore we feel this is the best time to begin our ***Building on our Legacy*** capital campaign. The total project cost is estimated at \$879,000, the approved funding strategy is a combined approach between existing monies of the church, donations and fundraising efforts. To date we have received a \$20,000.00 donation from Sowinski Farms, Inc. for a new well and a \$50,000.00 donation from the Women's Council for the kitchen appliances/materials. Our capital campaign goal is to raise \$409,000.00 through pledges and fundraising activities with the estimated project balance of \$400,000.00 to be funded through current investment monies of the church.

In closing, we want to be sure all parishioners are aware of why the timing with the building project has changed, our strong commitment to see it through and how you can be involved to help support this effort. Enclosed you will find a ***Building on our Legacy Pledge card*** for your consideration; no amount pledged is too small. In addition you will find a copy of the project plan and prayer for your reference.

Thank you for your consideration and support with this special endeavor! Questions about the project or our campaign efforts should be directed to the parish office. God Bless!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Ron Sarro, Pastor

Cynthia Wallis, Parish Council Chair

Margo Smith, Finance Council Chair

Shirley Sowinski, Building Committee Co-Chair

Ken Kortenhoff, Building Committee Co-Chair

Michele Cornelius, Capital Campaign Committee Chair