



November 5, 2016

Dear Parishioners,

Many of you know that over the last two years the parish has been working on a master plan for some needed upgrades and renovations to our campus. During the course of this it was discovered that we are currently grandfathered in to the city's water maintenance plan. In order for us to do any new construction, we would need to first get up to code and then meet the water retention needs of any future construction. This requires a pond to manage our runoff. We currently do not have the space for a pond. Because of this, the parish began looking at surrounding land to see if any might work to meet our needs. The only land that would work is to our east. Over the last year, with the support of our Parish Planning, Financial, and Parish Councils, I have engaged the land owner in talks about purchasing five acres of land to our east. I am happy to say that this was fruitful and we have recently purchased this land. The new five acre plot will allow us to build a retention pond to handle any future building we might undertake. This new land also means that we will have a new entrance to our campus as we will lose the entrance between the rectory and the water tower. This new entrance will actually be where Monroe and Winfield streets now T. The city owns that area just north of the T and we will be granting them an easement to bring Monroe street north. Our entrance will be off of this new section of Monroe Street. On the reverse of this paper you can find a diagram to help you visualize this project.

The first stage of this project will be to work with the city to make sure that we time our construction with each other. Once we have this, we will begin working to build the retention pond, the new entrance, and adjust the parking to accommodate those spaces lost because of the pond. While this is going on, we will begin a feasibility study that will engage the parish to determine what we can actually expect to raise in a capital campaign and gauge the support for the overall project. The parish planning team has worked very hard over the last two years to come up with a good plan that meets our needs, prepares us for our future, and is fiscally responsible. While I believe we have an excellent plan that is not to say that everything is completely set in stone. We, of course, need the support of the parish and your feedback during the feasibility study. This will help determine if we can meet all the goals of the plan or if we need to prioritize and realign our plan based on what the parish can support. The feasibility study will be funded by a combination of funds from our raffle, and hopefully, a grant from the Center for Congregations.

Once the new entrance, parking lot, and pond are in place and our feasibility study revived, the parish planning commission, along with the Financial and Parish Councils, will adjust the plan accordingly. We will then enter into a capital campaign. My best guess for the beginning of the capital campaign would be around the end of next year. I understand that there might be some hard feelings left over from the last capital campaign here at St. Michael. I can assure you all the money we raise for our campaign will remain here and be used for our parish. The money that was raised in the last capital campaign was used to purchase this new land and the remainder will be used for the new entrance, expanded parking lot, and pond. St. Michael is a generous parish and we certainly want to be very respectful of the financial support you give the parish. I want to thank you for your generosity in the past and ask that you continue to be generous in the future. More details will be forthcoming on the feasibility study and the timetable for the work on the new land. I am very excited by what the future holds, and I'm looking forward to working on our future together.

Sincerely

Rev. Aaron Jenkins

