

**Subject:** Parish Center Update

**Date:** October 13, 2015

We have been working on many projects and have important news and updates to provide. Thank you to all who are working on making our Parish Center a reality.

### **Parish Center Plans**

Joe Clarke from Groth Design Group has designed a beautiful Parish Center and located it between HT Church & School. Aesthetically it will complement our campus, and functionally it will provide security, good traffic flows, and will become a real asset to our parish and community. Our plans were introduced to over 90 parishioners last Thursday, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. Please go to our website [www.kewaskumcatholicparishes.com](http://www.kewaskumcatholicparishes.com), click on Holy Trinity School Facebook to **We Believe** video. Also, please follow Parish Center updates on Facebook as well. Joel Fleischman produced this video. It's well done.

### **Archdiocesan Building Commission**

On Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, Joel Fleischman, HT Building Committee Co-Chair and Brian Wildt, HT Pastoral Chair represented Holy Trinity at the Cousins Center in St. Francis. Father Ed had submitted Form C, which is a Request for Evaluation of Preliminary Plans and Estimated Costs for our Parish Center. The Commission will recommend Archbishop ListECKI approve Form C.

Building Commission members asked many specific questions. These included square footage and costs per square foot. Suggestions included HT create a contingency fund for things like winter weather conditions, excavation issues, and costs for construction utilities. Another is that HT complete detailed plans for inside finishing, construction material storage and sequencing construction schedule.

Also recommended was that Holy Trinity Building Committee work with our Architect and Construction contractor to prepare a plan for site use & parking for Masses, Funerals, Weddings and HT School access. Holy Trinity also needs Legal Counsel review/approval of construction contracts. Finally, they offered their assistance regarding preparation of bids, specifications, designs (Charles Haas, Design Consultant; George Katsekas, Architect and Dean Daniels, Liturgy) and financing-options.

Next step with Building Commission is submittal of Form D. We plan to submit Form D on January 15<sup>th</sup>, so Commission can review at February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Form D includes itemized quotations from contractors and financing plans. Once Form D is approved, then Holy Trinity can commence with construction, which is planned for spring, 2016.

### **We Believe Capital Campaign**

About 50 people have volunteered to be leaders in our WE BELIEVE campaign. We plan to include all parishioners in some aspect of our campaign. This outreach will energize all as we continue to see growth in our parish, school and CCD/CYD enrollments.

Also, St. Michael parish has volunteered to help Holy Trinity. It's great to see both parishes working together on this project.....one that will benefit our parishes and greater community. Next meeting of WE BELIEVE is Thursday evening, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm in HT church basement. Please come, socialize with fellow parishioners, and serve God & your community

## **Archdiocesan 2020 Plan**

Per Mark Kemmeter, Director Planning & Councils, "The 2020 Plan for Holy Trinity in Kewaskum is rather clear. Holy Trinity will cluster with St. Michael and there will be one priest assigned for both parishes. Basically, you are as you shall be. There are no plans for further clustering of Holy Trinity."

### **Questions:**

**Question:** How will Holy Trinity be able to pay for the operating costs of Parish Center?

**Answer:** An anonymous donor, is giving a gift up to \$25,000 a year for 10 years to pay for operating costs of the Parish Center. This gift is being given as a matter of faith.

**Question:** Parish and School numbers are declining, so why do we need a Parish Center?

**Answer:** Parish membership is actually increasing. Since Faith In Our Future campaign, when Holy Trinity had 700 members, today, membership of Holy Trinity is over 800 members & growing. HT School enrollments have grown from 92 students in the 2013-14 school year to 113 students this year. Religious education enrollments have grown from 250 students in 2013-14 school year to over 300 students this year. In fact, on Wednesday evenings, every classroom, meeting room, and both upper & lower HT church levels are used. Last year we had 2 shifts on Wednesday evenings. This year high schoolers are meeting at St. Michael parish. Father Ed supports the Parish Center as a much needed space to conduct our ministries.

**Question:** What is being done because Holy Trinity will be losing 28-30 parking spaces with Parish Center located between church & school?

**Answer:** WE BELIEVE campaign has budgeted \$40,000 to build 40 additional parking spaces in locations near HT church and Parish Center entrances. Also possible overflow gravel parking may be constructed south of HT playground.

**Question:** Will Holy Trinity have a decline in tithing once the WE BELIEVE campaign starts?

**Answer:** Per Mark Filips, "this is usually not the case, and the exact opposite happens". Mark further says, "Because it is such a sustained activity of prayer and reflection, and many Catholics are on auto-pilot when it comes to Sunday giving, you usually see an increase in Sunday giving. Sometimes it can be 10-15% depending on the parish and the circumstances."

Barb Vite from the Archdiocese said that "well-run campaigns, because they involve so many parishioners, produce positive tithing results".

**Question:** What is the level of support from our parishioners for our new Parish Center?

**Answer:** From interviews with 57 parishioners and another 60+ parishioners during 2 Focus Group sessions, Mark Filips reports: 91 % support the vision for a new Parish Center. 93% agree the best way to fund this is with a capital campaign. 83% believe other parishioners are receptive to a campaign. 91% indicated they would be making a pledge to the upcoming campaign. 97% support proceeding with a capital campaign.

***"Our Lifestyles Seem Self-Serving, and yet, God Calls Us to a Life of Self-Sacrifice"***