

# Notes from the Pastor

January 8, 2023



## *A Year of Good Things at Saint Lawrence - 2022!*

Dear Saint Lawrence Family,

Happy New Year and a continued Merry Christmas to all of you! Thanks to all your prayers and efforts guided by the Holy Spirit, there are a lot of things to be thankful for from last year. Take a look at some of them below!

- Parishioners welcomed me warmly as the new administrator in July and responded enthusiastically during 3 months of listening sessions.
- Increased emphasis on evangelization in Baptismal and Marriage

Preparation.

- Church and Rectory have new roofs.
- Parish Office has new shingles and gutter guards.
- The older section of the school has a new roof and the cupola has received a facelift.
- The fenced playground area has been extended due to a special grant received.
- Reconstruction on the church bell tower and the school building masonry have begun.
- The parking lot has been sealed and repainted AND we'll be keeping that up on schedule in years ahead.
- We Confirmed 24 high school teens in 2022, and are currently preparing approximately 80 teens in 8th-12th grades to receive Confirmation in the spring of 2023.
- New Smartboards in the school classrooms
- New whiteboards in all classrooms
- "Simple Soup Supper" on Ash Wednesday
- Largest Ever Father Beechem Bingo Bash to raise funds for our school scholarships
- New buffet serving line in Father Conen Hall
- New altar servers are in training with dozens more to be trained by February 2023.
- Our "Top Ten" list generated 45 volunteers to help with one time and ongoing tasks.
- 100 people helped with our Fall Clean-up day in October which focused on the church and the Fr. Conen Hall storage areas.
- 17 people were baptized and joined the Catholic Church at Easter Vigil in 2022; 65 people have been baptized so far this fiscal year which began July 1, 2022.
- The Bienvenido Group #5 men and women (Christ Renew His Parish) are preparing for Retreat #6 in June 2023.
- The Young Adults Cristo Siempre Joven keep meeting periodically.
- 62 families became registered members of Saint Lawrence Catholic Church.

Christmas and New Year blessings,

*Fr. Jimmy*