

Notes from the Pastor



August 28, 2022

Dear Saint Lawrence Family:

As you may know, the small group listening sessions have already been bearing some good fruit, and they are about to bear a lot more fruit. What do I mean by that? I mean that by listening broadly to our staff, parishioners, and visitors of our parish, you and I have been able to get a clearer snapshot of the overall current needs while keeping our sights set on high hopes for the future.

The good news is that our parish has already come a long way toward meeting the current needs: caring for each other and the surrounding community, getting out of debt, getting new roofs and a new parking lot, and having a rainy-day fund. The other good news is that there is other deferred maintenance that is in progress behind the scenes. For example: bids being made for rebuilding our bell tower, parts arriving to replace many of our interior lights, etc.

However, as you know, there is a lot more to be done to keep up with the current needs of the parish in order to help us focus more squarely on the high hopes we have for our parish. So, the staff and I have been working together to compile the list of needs in a way that is more actionable for each of us. We plan to publish that list in the bulletin next Sunday, September 4.

This comes just ahead of our annual stewardship renewal. After a lot of prayer, I realized that this year's stewardship renewal should be a little different in order to tend to the needs we have all spoken about while talking about our hopes. So, please join me in praying a little extra about what you can offer in time, talent, and treasure to help meet these needs. This will help us move from needs to hopes. In other words, we look to move from maintenance to mission.

Blessings in Christ,

Jim Jimmy