

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH MISSION of the SACRED HEART

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Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

An important part of my ministry as a pastor is to maintain and care for all that has been given to me which includes the physical property and buildings. From my experience owning a home, is something that is constant and always needs attention. Some things we can plan for while others just make you shake your head and laugh or cry depending on the circumstance. Since I arrived, we have had a lot to focus on from immediate needs to delayed maintenance to renovating to major improvements.

First, I want to provide a list of the projects and improvements we have been working on since July 2023, thanks to the guidance of the staff, our facility manager, and our facilities committee. Here are the projects and improvements that have been completed:

- HVAC units are now under a maintenance contract and are regularly serviced
- Soffits repaired on the Faith Formation Center (two-story building called the FFC) along with repainting the outside and railings
- Mini-split HVAC ("air conditioning") added to the church cry room and the Small Hall in the Administration Building
- Security cameras added around campus
- Walkway roof replaced between the church and Administration Building
- Room 2 in the Administration Building renovated
- Parking lot in front the of the church and the Early Learning Center (ELC) resurfaced
- New lighting added for the parking lot.
- Sidewalk replaced on the left side of the church to the cry room.
- Organ speakers removed from the sanctuary walls.
- New organ speakers purchased and placed off to the side
- New soundboard and microphones purchased for the church sound system.
- At the Mission of the Sacred Heart, a covering was added over the side exit along with replacing the ramp along the left side of the chapel. For the Fellowship Hall, entrances are now more sloped to allow those in wheelchairs and using walkers to enter and exit the building.

All this and more has been paid for by your regular donations to our Building and Maintenance Fund whether through online giving (WeShare) or using the yellow envelope enclosed in your bimonthly church envelopes. Also, the profits from the Fall Festival have helped with these projects as well. For those who have contributed in any way, I am truly grateful for your generosity and trust.

However, we have more work planned that will greatly benefit everyone in our parish. During the second half of May, major work will be done to bathrooms, the Small Hall, and the Main Hall of the Administration Building. For the bathrooms: a new ceiling, new lights, added airflow, and repainting of the walls. For the Small Hall and Main Hall: new drop-down ceiling, new LED lights, a new sound system and video system along with repainting the walls and adding chair rails around the rooms. These projects will cost between \$80,000 to \$85,000. The plan is to have all of this work done by the end of May.

Another big announcement is in regard to our Faith Formation Center. The FFC was built in 2014. However, the second floor was never fully finished due to funding. We have been working with an architect and input from our staff, ministries, and catechists as we look to finish this building this year. In truth, we really need to finish this building soon with all that is going on at this campus. If you pass by the church on almost any night, you will see activities occurring on site and we have reached capacity. As we look to finish the FFC, this will give us two big meeting rooms, a break room to help provide meals for gatherings, more classrooms, and additional storage for ministries. The projected cost is around \$500,000.

It has been my goal to avoid doing a capital campaign. We are using the funds you donate to us regularly to maintain and invest in our campus for the future. Therefore, I am asking you to consider giving regularly to our Building and Maintenance Fund if you are not already doing so. If you are already contributing, I ask you to prayerfully consider slightly increasing your contribution. Anything you can give will be greatly appreciated! With these projects, we will be using over half of our building fund while maintaining the necessary reserves in case of immediate needs as well as insurance premiums.

Please be on the lookout soon for a video from me explaining more of the work that will be going on next month and hopefully this year. Also, we hope to release a new Master Plan for the parish very soon looking to the future of our parish that will meet the growing needs of our community.

Through the Alliance of the Two Hearts,

Fr. Matthew J. June

Fr. Matthew J. Graham