

## **Message from the capital/building campaign**

In 2017, our parish completed the Phase 2 renovation of this facility at a cost of \$5.4 million. This required a loan of \$3,737,863 from the Diocese. Through the generous support of parishioners and our fundraising activities, we have reduced our loan to \$2,977,683 in just 4 years. Our monthly interest has gone from \$12,700 at inception to \$7,638—by reducing the loan principal plus a reduced interest rate.

Pre-authorized monthly donations have added certainty to meeting our monthly obligation and allowed for periodic debt reduction. We want to thank all parishioners for their ongoing support of this major capital undertaking.

However, while donations to the Building Fund have been stable, giving and donations to the parish's General Operating Fund have fallen short of our needs. This can be partially attributed to COVID, as collection baskets are not being used by the ushers. In addition, inflation is becoming a real factor.

Many of us have had our regular giving at the same level for years, sometimes out of habit, but also not realizing the actual costs of operating the parish are going up annually. So we're asking parishioners to please review your current giving to the general fund and thoughtfully consider whether an increase is possible. Also, consider setting up a pre-authorized arrangement with Jackie in the parish office. This will ensure scheduled giving is maintained even when you may be unable to attend Mass. This can be amended or stopped at your discretion should you need to do so.

Again, the parish thanks everyone for their ongoing generosity and participation in the financial affairs of our Church.