



St. Francis de Sales

WE CAN "FIX IT" TOGETHER

18TH PLEDGE UPDATE AND REPAIRS COMPLETED

Sunday, August 26, 2018
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Parishioners,

As a reminder of what has been accomplished since May 2017, the parking lots, paved areas, curbs, and sidewalks of the St. Francis de Sales Campus—including our Church and School—have now been completed. The new siding on the Ministry Center roof has also been installed. Repairs have been made to the Chapel roof on the Church, which began to seriously leak along the south wall of the Chapel during the spring and summer rainstorms. In addition to the Chapel roof, the slanted roof above the back sacristy and Music Room has been fixed. It had been leaking for a number of years. **The installation of the new heating and air conditioning system for the Ministry Center is almost completed, and the next initiative has begun. On Tuesday, August 21, workers began the demolition of the building that housed the original St. Francis de Sales Church. Not only was this building the first St. Francis de Sales church, but it also housed the first Ela Township Library in the basement. When the church was decommissioned, it became a lunchroom for the parish school and then a storage facility.**

As pledges are made and paid, we will continue to address the remaining projects, which can be found on our parish website. See what this good parish has accomplished already in total pledges and number of donors! At this point in the Campaign, 816 donors helped us reach \$1,282,092 in total pledges. Total pledges paid are \$1,183,578. Balance due is \$98,513. It is not the intention of the Fix-It Campaign to place the parish in debt. As a parish, we spent 9 years paying off the \$3.8 million debt. We will only address the projects as we raise the funds to pay for them. As Thomas Jefferson advised, "Never spend your money before you have it!" My Grandmother Ryan said the same message in her own way!

For details on the campaign, including the presentation that was shown at Masses as well as the information on Charitable Giving Options, visit our parish website, www.stfrancislzparish.org. Thank you to those who have already responded with a pledge toward the \$1.7 million goal. St. Francis de Sales has a long history of generous giving. I respectfully ask for the prayers, involvement, and sacrifice of many, if not all, in the parish in making a pledge towards the Fix-It Campaign in addition to the generosity you provide each Sunday offering. **For example, if 1,000 parishioners pledge the suggested amount of \$850 per year for 2 years, we will reach our campaign goal immediately to conclude the projects.** Please, everyone, participate through a prayer and a pledge. All the funds we raise in the Fix-It Campaign stay within the parish.

I want to express my gratitude to Deacon John Sfire, Jason Sfire, and Amie Paige of The Fidelity Group for doing an extensive study of our parish campus, as was presented in the Fix-It Campaign presentation. I have asked the Fidelity Group, under the leadership of Deacon John Sfire and Jason Sfire, to serve as Project Managers of the Fix-It Campaign. I also want to offer my appreciation for the guidance and involvement of Tom Purtell, Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), Marty Bush, Member of the PPC; Mike Carlino, Chair of the Parish Finance Council; Doug Samz, Member of the Parish Finance Council; Christine DePrez, Cornerstone Bank Liaison; Laura Angelini, Business Manager; and Pam Lynch, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

God give you peace,
Father David F. Ryan, Pastor