



St. Francis de Sales

WE CAN "FIX IT" TOGETHER

21ST PLEDGE UPDATE & REPAIRS COMPLETED

Sunday, December 9, 2018
the Second Sunday of Advent

Dear Parishioners,

The installation of the new heating and air conditioning system for the Ministry Center is completed. The demolition of the building that housed the original church has been completed. Not only did this building serve as 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. A monument on the site of the old church building will be erected in remembrance of the first church in the parish and in honor of the generations of Catholics in this parish building up the Body of Christ.

As you have noticed, the west parking lot has been completed. Also, construction of the new maintenance and storage building, which is located directly north of the parish school, is almost complete. By Christmas, we hope to have the new flooring installed in the Church.

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, 833 donors helped us reach \$1,317,023 in total pledges. Total pledges paid are \$1,248,657. Balance due is \$68,366. 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.stfrancisdeparish.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