

# The GOOD STEWARD

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For the Members of St. Jude Catholic Church

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## We Have Broken Ground

*by Fr. Tim Church*

We have begun our new construction. As soon as you read this, weather permitting, our contractor will have begun mobilizing men and equipment. Here is the scope of the project:

### Expansion of the Church.

Expansion of the church according to the original design which provides 198 seats in each transept. This design provides an attachment at each narthex. The additional 396 seats will expand the Church to seat 1,500. Currently the largest regular Sunday Masses is at capacity or 1,300 to 1,450. The total square footage of this piece to our plan is 2,700 square feet.

### The Pastoral Center.

This provides new office space for our staff and new adult educational space. This piece to the plan includes a multipurpose reception space and five conference/classrooms for a total of 2,129 square feet. New parking adjacent to the pastoral center and the Church will provide an additional 116 spaces.

Our hope is that the commencing construction will help spark new enthusiasm for giving to support this project. If that happens, we will seek permission to begin the next two phases. The architecture and mechanical planning are well on their way. With this commitment, we hope the parish will join the effort. This will include:

### Remodeling.

A major portion of the original multipurpose space will be remodeled as a youth activity and education center. They currently use temporary space for offices and activities.

### The Religious Education building.

The Religious Education building will also be expanded to add two classrooms and two offices. While this will be adequate for only a short time, the construction of the pastoral center will move all the existing nine offices to the new building allowing all the vacated offices to return to their use as classrooms.

In our present economy we continue to struggle but we have enough support to begin our project. Both the Bishop and our parish leadership hold fast to a conservative approach to financing the project. Our hope is to look beyond the present difficulties and see that faith and trust in God are more powerful than a negative economy.

We will have more to say about the details of our project as time goes on. Contributions can be made by noting your check as for the "Building Fund".

*A Church*

