

Holy Name of Jesus Church

6150 Allentown Boulevard
Harrisburg, PA 17112-2603
Phone: (717) 652-4211 Fax: (717) 652-2033

September 2019

Dear Parishioners,

Our Parish leadership has been working together on a set of improvements that are essential for the Holy Name of Jesus campus. As you know, we have been working regularly to update and repair many elements of our parish facilities. Our school has undergone major renovations and is fully air-conditioned. The former church has been converted into a meeting hall, and our front parking and driveways have been realigned and repaved. To date, we have been able to do these improvements within our regular parish budget. The next major improvements that are needed to modernize our campus will require additional resources.

The proposed new projects would create a separate residence for the priests, establish adequate work areas for the business office, provide private offices for the priests, bring our new church up to its original plan, modernize the social hall, and improve handicap accessibility. Together, these projects will help to bring our parish to more contemporary standards.

Our current rectory has space for two resident priests and a guest room. This does not enable us to accommodate a retired priest, a resident, or a seminarian who may be assigned for the summer as well as any regular visitors. In past years when we have had a seminarian assigned to the parish, they had to live at another rectory, which is far from ideal in their formation. In addition, there is no private office space for the priests to work and meet with people other than using space in the current living quarters, something very much contrary to current norms.

A second challenge for the parish is the social hall. Built in 1961 with the original church, it serves as the lunch area for our school children as well as meeting space for various parish ministries, clubs, and social events. Unscheduled events, such as funeral luncheons, can be disruptive to routine school functioning, often requiring us to use the gym during the school year. The social hall needs to be modernized, provided with improved handicap accessibility, and made more secure for our students. In addition, finishing the lower level in our new church would provide a solution to meet the needs of the parish ministries and funeral luncheons.

The goal for our parish is to focus on these four areas of improvement:

- Construct a new rectory near the church that will provide adequate living space.
- Convert the existing rectory into a modernized business office with private meeting space for individuals and groups to meet with our priests.
- Improve and modernize the social hall under the former church.
- Complete the lower level of the new church to host special events such as funeral meals, adult education, and other parish functions.

To introduce our plans to the Holy Name of Jesus community, we cordially invite you to a parish Town Hall meeting on Tuesday, **October 1, 2019 at 7:00 pm**. The meeting will take place in the former church. Light refreshments will be served.

We look forward to this next major step for our parish. We have every expectation that these proposed projects will resonate with our parishioners and find your support. Let us be **Faithful Stewards...Building our Future**.

May our Lord bless you and your family as we look forward to our next challenges together.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fr. Edward J. Quinlan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Fr. Edward J. Quinlan
Pastor