

Dear Holy Redeemer Parishioners,

Over the past several years, Holy Redeemer parish and the Catholic community of Chatham have faced many challenges. Together, we navigated a path through COVID-19 and have emerged with a renewed commitment to our faith. Before the pandemic, preliminary plans were being formed for substantial renovations to our church building. With the blessing of our Finance Committee and Bishop da Cunha, I have made the decision to move forward with several of these significant capital improvement projects to prepare our church for the future.

- ***The focus of our improvements is a new elevator.*** The chair lift we have at the back of the church is not adequate. To accommodate the elevator, we will build a new 30' x 30' addition to the right of the sanctuary. The addition will include a more prominent side entrance to the church and Parish Center, and additional seating. A prominent stained-glass window will grace the side of the addition facing Old Harbor Road, so passers-by will recognize our beautiful church. The stained-glass window will be one that has been lovingly repurposed from a church that has been closed in our own Diocese of Fall River. Finally, a new sacristy will be constructed.
- Additionally, we will be making several smaller improvements that will further enhance the accessibility of our parish building. First, we will ***construct a restroom*** in the location of the present chair lift. Renovations will then remove walls to ***enlarge the sanctuary*** and create a space for the organ and choir to face the congregation. We will ***replace the pews*** with new reconfigured ones, put down new floor covering and make other cosmetic updates. Finally, we will be ***adding restrooms*** in the Parish Hall, and moving the present kitchen.
- Finally, if it falls within our budget, we will also be looking to ***construct a new entrance to our parking lot*** with direct access from Old Harbor Road.

Although my primary responsibility is attending to your spiritual needs, I would be remiss in my duties as your pastor, not keeping our buildings and parish grounds in good repair. Our church is the centerpiece of our faith. Several years ago, Holy Redeemer adopted the mission statement ***Living in Faith, Growing in Faith, Sharing in Faith***. Every day, we come together as a parish community to live out this mission statement, by offering our time, talent, and treasure. To assure its future, we must continually strive to keep it in good repair so it may continue to be a beacon of spiritual excellence throughout the lower Cape.

We are now launching a Capital Campaign with a goal to raise a minimum of \$1,000,000 -- We will be forgoing our normal Grand Annual Collection (which raises approximately \$89,000 annually). Please know that part of the funds raised will be set aside to replace the Grand Annual funds, to offset any unforeseen expenses that may arise. Additionally, we will be using \$1,500,000 of our parish savings, and \$525,000 collected from a recent sale of land in South Chatham. It is necessary to ask you, the faithful of the parish, for financial help. ***It is unrealistic that a project of this magnitude can be accomplished with the Sunday collection or our parish reserves.***

Together we can ensure a comfortable and safe church for every parish family, and all who seek to worship within our walls. I ask you to join me in making a prayerful, sacrificial pledge today. Your contribution, **no matter the size**, will be gratefully received and carefully used. You may return your pledge card by placing it in the collection basket or you can mail it to the parish office. If you would

prefer to make your contributions electronically, please enroll in our online giving program. You can access the **Online Giving** link on our website: www.holyredeemerchatham.org.

Holy Redeemer belongs to all parishioners. Collectively we have a stewardship responsibility to do our fair share to support our parish, both through weekly contributions and capital improvement campaigns when the needs arise. I pray that you will participate in this most necessary campaign to the best of your ability. The place where we come together to worship God should be as safe, accessible, and welcoming as we can make it. So, it is with courage, confidence and trust that we face the future. We trust that God will provide and, as always, we are in His hands. May He bless you and your family for all you do for Holy Redeemer.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. John M. Sullivan
Pastor