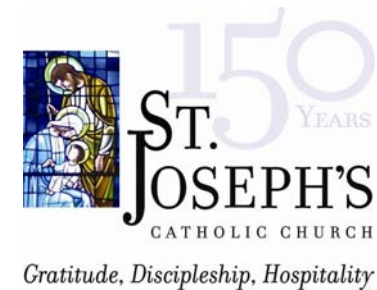


With input from our pastor, Parish Pastoral Council, pastoral staff and parish leaders, a needs assessment has been conducted to determine the priorities for a capital campaign. While the existing facility has served our parish well to date, it is in need of change and renewal. Our expanding and augmented ministries and programs demand it. This campaign draws its inspiration from our mission of *Gratitude, Discipleship, and Hospitality: As a Catholic community we witness to the love of Jesus Christ in the world.*



St. Joseph's Church is fortunate to enjoy the support of an active, vibrant community and the work of more than 1,500 volunteers engaged in one or more committees, activities, and ministries. This construction and renovation proposed will help to preserve the history of the Church here, extend its message of gratitude, hospitality, and discipleship, offer improved educational experiences for young and old alike, provide space for parish, school, and community related activities, and focus our spiritual journey in tangible ways. The parish will emerge as an agent of social change and an example of genuine welcome.

Prayerfully consider how you can support the future of St. Joseph's.
Call Fr. Jim at 586-8089 x.112 or
email schwartz@stjosephspenfield.org



A Mission Driven People

St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Penfield, New York has been blessed by the faithfulness of God and by the generosity and vision of many generations of parishioners. We have deep roots in the community and a rich history, extending 150 years. In the year 2010, we will joyfully celebrate this anniversary and look forward to this significant landmark in our story of faith.

While we acknowledge our heritage, we simultaneously face a new era filled with promise, opportunity, challenges, and needs. Our Parish Pastoral Council has embraced this view by embarking on a journey of self-examination and clarification. With the guiding principles of *gratitude, discipleship, and hospitality*, the Council has diligently identified ways in which our parish effectively can serve and lead our families, our youth, and our community into the future. We know that while the facilities and faces have changed over the years, our mission is always the one given to us by the Lord: *As a Catholic community, we witness to the love of Jesus Christ in the world.*

Meeting the Challenge

Listening sessions hosted by Fr. Jim when he came to St. Joseph's revealed many useful and practical suggestions from parishioners, many of which have been implemented. Over time, it has been articulated that the parish seeks the development of a long-range pastoral, or master, plan for the faith community. With a draft completed, the pastoral staff and parish leaders have begun to systematically plan and implement new initiatives to accommodate a new "mission-driven" model of parish life. The Parish Pastoral Council has accepted the challenge of formulating a long-range plan for St. Joseph's Church that spans the spiritual, intellectual, and physical needs of the community.

Two-Fold Pastoral Plan with One Focus: Our Ministry

Today, we will bridge our extraordinary history with the infinite possibilities for the future by investing in our community commitment to gather to celebrate God's love in the Eucharist, grow in the knowledge and love of God, and serve Christ in one another. We will meet this commitment now and in the future with a two-fold pastoral plan that honors our 150th anniversary: a reorganization of our ministries that empowers more parishioners to lead the work of God in our Church and the launch of a capital campaign to further support our worship and ministries.

Several key issues have been identified as critical to our growth:

- The Pastoral Council has implemented the **new "mission-driven" model of parish life**, which is dynamically expanding parishioner leadership, community commitment, and interest in developing other emerging ministries.
- This model thrives with our **understanding of Sunday Eucharist as the source and summit of our Catholic life and Baptism as our common call to serve God and one another**. The addition to our worship environment of an immersion font with living water would signify the one faith and one baptism shared by all Catholics.
- There is **no facility on the parish campus able to comfortably accommodate large numbers in a single space**, a need that is critical for a community committed to living out its mission of

hospitality to all who come to us—especially those preparing to receive the Sacraments, people in mourning, and all who wish to share fellowship with one another.

- Parish leaders have voiced concern about the **need for campus renovation and improvements**: to continue to support and expand current and future ministries, St. Joseph's must renovate its physical plant and update aging facilities, encouraging the growth of evolving programs with adequate meeting space.
- We have a **vibrant elementary school** linked to the Church, with an increasing enrollment and notable curriculum, now approved with the prestigious Middle States Accreditation.

We now embrace a refreshed legacy of gratitude, hospitality, and discipleship. The 150th anniversary campaign is intended to increase our awareness of our common baptismal call and provide current generations and families an opportunity to follow in their parents' and grandparents' visionary footsteps through the following:

- **Enhancing our worship space with a full immersion baptismal font and welcoming, open entranceway;**
- **Modernizing our facilities to meet the hospitality needs of our community, especially with a meaningful and purposeful gathering space;**
- **Better meeting the needs of the parish, school, and community with expanded, multi-purpose meeting areas;**
- **Establishing a special social outreach ministry in gratitude for our 150 years as a parish family.**

These new and renewed commitments will not only provide space and materials much needed by the parish currently but—in keeping with the 150-year tradition of the St. Joseph's community—will leave a *legacy of gratitude, hospitality, and discipleship* for generations to come. It has been over 15 years since the parish has assumed any major capital projects. Despite the uncertain market, we must answer the call to witness to Christ's love as previous generations have done before us, also in times of hardship. This call is answered with prayerful commitment and willing dedication to sacrifice and stewardship. Our faith will sustain us as we continue Jesus' ministry.