



Dear family,

I have some very important and exciting news to share with you!

After our recent meeting with the Diocesan Building and Properties Commission, we have received word that we are able to move forward with the next phase of our Building God's Kingdom project. This is wonderful news for our parish community and an important step forward after much prayer, planning, patience, and hard work.

This next phase includes what we are calling the Parish Life Center, an expansion that will provide much-needed space for the growing needs of our parish. The new space will include four additional meeting rooms, giving our many ministries and groups more appropriate places to gather. It will also allow us to significantly reduce the use of Franciscan Hall for parish meetings, especially during school hours.

As part of this phase, we also plan to relocate the school principal's office to Franciscan Room 4. This will help strengthen access and security for our school by providing a more appropriate location for the school's main administrative office.

In the coming weeks, we will share the plans in greater detail, including drawings of the proposed expansion, the next steps in the process, and a clearer timeline for construction. While there are still details to finalize, we are hopeful that we may be able to break ground sometime within the next several weeks.

I am very excited that we have reached this point. It has taken time to get here, and I know there have been moments when many of us—including me—wished the process could move more quickly. But projects of this size require careful planning and collaboration, and I am deeply grateful for your patience, understanding, prayers, and continued support.

Most importantly, this project has never simply been about adding rooms or expanding a building. It is about Building God's Kingdom—creating spaces where people can gather, where our children can learn safely, where ministries can grow, where relationships can be strengthened, and where our parish family can continue to encounter Jesus Christ and share the Good News with others.

We have reached an important milestone, and there is much more to come. I look forward to sharing the plans with you very soon and, God willing, celebrating together as we finally put a shovel in the ground!

Thank you for believing in this project and in the future of our St. Jude family. Please continue to keep Building God's Kingdom and our entire parish community in your prayers. God is good, and there is much for which we can be grateful!

Fr. Ray