



A Message From Our Pastor

My brothers and sisters,

Almost 5 years ago, our parish council held Townhall meetings to decide what Visitation was to become. We set an ambitious agenda for our church, wanting to see growth in five areas: Youth/ teens, Adult Spiritual Growth, Communication, Families w/ Children, Social and Facilities. In that short time, our Visitation community has grown tremendously. We have expanded the Confirmation program. Adults are being fed spiritually through our Bible Buddies and Faith Food and Fellowship programs. Cornerstone retreats have been established for men and women in our parish. Communication has grown as our bulletin has greatly developed, our website was improved,

and we have hired a Director of Social Media for the parish and school. Let the numbers tell the story. Since April 2017 we have had

- **86 baptisms,**
- **165 First Communions,**
- **115 Confirmations,**
- **46 RCIA men and women who have entered our church through Baptism, and /or Communion and Confirmation.**

Our school is at near-capacity. **199 families have joined our parish.** Seeing our parish so vibrant and alive should lift all our spirits. We are indeed continuing Visitation's tradition of being a warm and welcoming church.

RENEW - TO DATE

In our first two years, we began the difficult task of addressing deferred maintenance. So many of our buildings were in need of repair. We started with remodeling the church bathrooms (\$56,000) the first floor of the school (\$392,000), the Parish Center Upper Room (\$17,000) church repairs of lighting, gutters (\$19,000), and the convent (\$6,500). The cost of these repairs showed us that a financial campaign would be necessary, and Renew Visitation was born, the first financial campaign in the history of our parish for our parish. From the input of archdiocesan engineers, we set the goal of raising \$3.5 million dollars. At the time it may have seemed too lofty a goal but how proud we all should be in knowing that together we have raised already \$2.8 million in two years' time. And how has that money been spent? To date, we have completed the following projects.

Phase 1 – Renew Visitation Begins - \$182,000

- Church and Auditorium brick repair
- Daycare Center, Convent / School front yards
- Lunch benches
- Church bells

Phase 2 – Project Safe and Beautiful - \$1,700,000

- Church Courtyard, Lighting and Landscaping
- Church Front Steps and Doors and Landscaping
- North Church Landscaping
- Mary's Garden and Landscaping
- Perimeter Fencing on Emerson and Liberator Streets and Lighting
- New Security System for the School, Church, Courtyard and Parking lot / Playground
- Circular Grass Playground Park

(Included in all these expenses are the unseen ones: architect fees, building permits, upgrading electric grid, water pipe repairs, sprinkling systems, etc.)



RENEW - WHAT'S NEXT?

Even though we have done much, much remains to be done. We plan on continuing our work in three more phases.

Phase 3 will begin this summer, with the remodeling of the interior of O'Sullivan Hall and improving the back junior high yard with a new surface and planters, and new musical instruments for the school (Donated by the Drollinger Family Charitable Foundation).

Phase 4 will begin next summer by refurbishing the junior high building and its restrooms, the auditorium restrooms, and the second floor of the school, cleaning the hall and school brickwork, painting, and creating a new music center for the students. We are also looking strongly at bringing air-conditioning into the school and the O'Sullivan Hall.

Phase 5. Finally, with all of those needed repairs done, we will turn our attention to the church itself and all of the refurbishment that it needs. Pews, painting, carpet, chandeliers, artwork and statue cleaning, polishing of terrazzo flooring, etc. We are saving the church for last phase, as it is the one building that does not require immediate attention.



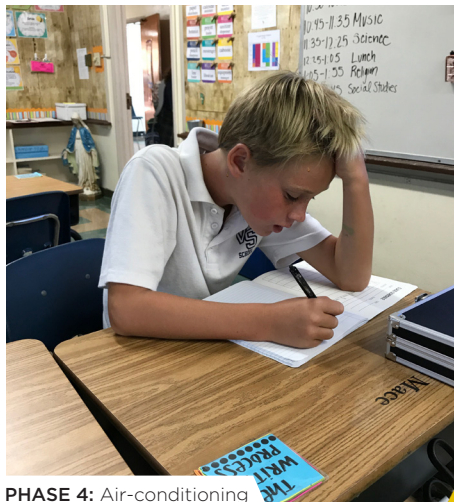
ARTIST RENDERING: SUBJECT TO CHANGE



ARTIST RENDERING: SUBJECT TO CHANGE



PHASE 4: Jr High Building Hall and Bathrooms



PHASE 4: Air-conditioning



PHASE 5: Church Refurbishing

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US REACH OUR GOAL

As mentioned before, we are almost at our goal financially. In this last year we need to make one last big push. May I call on you all to make one more effort?

Here are some ways to contribute.

Extending your pledge for a year or two if possible. Visit renewvisitation.org or contact Faith Direct.

Courtyard Bricks - \$500

Memorial Plaques on Wall behind Mary - \$500

Outdoor Stations of the Cross (to be placed in the brick pillars along the interior perimeter of the parking lot / playground) - \$5,000 per station

If you are interested in other naming opportunities, contact Kathleen at renewvisitation@gmail.com.



ARTIST RENDERING: SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Thank you

I am so grateful to all the parishioners who “dug deep” to guide our parish this far. Part of the church refurbishment will include a donor wall in the vestibule where we will be prominently honoring the donors who have so generously contributed to our campaign.

	PLATINUM \$100,000 + UP	
	GOLD \$25,000 TO \$99,999	
	SILVER \$5,000 TO \$24,999	
	BRONZE \$1,000 TO \$4,999	

Who could have imagined that only two years ago, we could have accomplished so much so quickly? I do not have the words to express my pride in our parish and my gratitude for you all. With just a bit more work on all our part, I believe we will accomplish our goal! Contact us at renewvisitation@gmail.com with any questions or if you would like to get involved as we finish up our campaign to RENEW VISITATION!