



Holy Spirit Catholic Church

COMPLETING OUR VISION Each of Us, All of Us **FEASIBILITY STUDY SUMMARY**

Last fall, the Holy Spirit Leadership determined that our Parish has two big challenges: We have a worship space that is unfinished and we have a debt of over 3 million dollars, against which we are only able to make our monthly interest payments – that means the amount of our debt now is the SAME as it has been for the past 7 years.

Therefore, our Parish Council and Finance Council along with Fr. Don and staff proposed a Parish appeal that we are calling "Completing Our Vision". We engaged a consultant group, Ernhart & Associates, to help us undertake a feasibility study to determine the ideas, concerns and priorities of our parishioners, as well as gauge their level of support for this appeal. Ernhart & Associates recently completed this feasibility study and reported to the Councils their findings.

The key points of this study underscore the following:

- Many positives of the Holy Spirit community were reinforced.
- There is a strong feeling of "family" at Holy Spirit.
- Holy Spirit is very welcoming and inclusive.
- The Parish is made up of many young families with children.
- Ernhart also found that our Parish is spirit-filled with good liturgy, tremendous music and wonderful leadership.
- Today we are nearly 1000 households strong!
- As part of the feasibility study process, about 300 households attended one of seven informational meetings. We had 146 households participate in an interview process. Two thirds of those interviewed felt that reducing our debt should be our first priority while a smaller number felt that finishing our worship space should be our first priority.
- One of the most important findings was that 98% of those interviewed indicated that they would be willing to participate in the "Completing Our Vision" appeal.
- Based on the feasibility study and interviews, Ernhart's recommendation is that we move forward with this appeal.

As a result of this encouraging input, we are proceeding with the "Completing Our Vision" Parish appeal to reduce our long-term debt and begin the work of finishing our worship space.

In the coming weeks as we proceed, we will provide more information to all members of the Parish regarding our appeal. We encourage your support and request that you give prayerful consideration when asked to participate in this important campaign for your Parish. Thank you!

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