

FROM FATHER BARNHILL

A project list is a document I created and continue to update. I've already given the updated project list to the Parish Council, Finance Committee members, and those who assist me with building and grounds at Saint Joseph Parish & School. It is more than a list of capital improvements and building maintenance. The Parish Council and the related committees will continue to advise me on prioritizing the following projects.

- 1) The long term operational debt is \$85,000. On top of that, the Diocese of Lincoln has monthly assessments to be paid by each parish of the diocese. This includes property insurance, health insurance of clergy and participating staff, clergy retirement fund, *Southern Nebraska Register* subscriptions, to name a few. These assessments average about \$15,000 each month. St. Joseph Parish is in debt to the diocese for these monthly assessments. The goal is to have this debt paid by the end of the Year 2019.
- 2) Teacher Salaries: St Joseph Beatrice Teacher Fund is a "Donor Advised Fund" as part of *The Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska*. The investment to the new "St. Joseph Beatrice Teacher Fund" was made by the Gala Committee in April 2018 in the amount of \$18,000. The Gala Committee will be the primary advisor along with the pastor as the additional primary advisor to recommend distribution from the fund. The Donor Advised Fund allows the Gala Committee control of the for timing of fund distribution for the sole benefit of teachers of St. Joseph School, Beatrice as beneficiary. The balance of the invested fund as of June 30, 2018 is \$18,330.42.
- 3) Heating & Air Conditioning (HVAC) for our church building was a "*Joy of the Gospel*" Campaign project. The new goal is to install new HVAC for our church within the next 4 years. The bid estimate for HVAC 5 years ago was over \$80,000.
- 4) St. Joseph Catholic School benefited from "*Joy of the Gospel*" Campaign when we installed new boiler heat to the school building and Parish Center in 2018. Now, the 3rd floor gym will receive the final HVAC upgrade when air conditioning is installed in 2019. This project of approximately \$15,000 will be funded by Gala 2019.
- 5) Demolition of the Masonic building (601 Grant St.) is being planned for this Fall 2018. A generous benefactor to our parish has given an estate gift of \$103,000. This money is already deposited into our reserved funds for specific use to demolish the building and landscape the northwest corner of our property. The estate gift will pay for all related expenses on this project such as landfill fees. The remaining estate gift funds will go to the next capital improvement project of our choice.
- 6) The Church Bell Tower Project proposal has been received from the Verdin Bell Company of Cincinnati for replacing the head bolt assembly and support timbers for each of the two bells in the tower. The bell ringing hardware is showing its age. The bolts that hold the bells to the yokes are corroded and the timbers that support the bells are in terrible condition. The bid is approximately \$11,000. In addition, our Knights of Columbus Council has budgeted almost \$5,000 related to this project for safety upgrades and bell tower repairs.
- 7) Planning for the 100th Anniversary of the Church Building in 2024 is a discussion I have initiated with Parish Council, some Altar Society ladies, Evangelization Committee, and those who assist me with buildings and grounds matters. The project list is still being created for exterior and interior improvements. For example, wall plaster repair & painting, new flooring, new pew pads, entrance doors (the swinging doors), choir loft rail upgrades for insurance purposes, and the largest expense of gutter & tuckpointing repairs to the exterior. A capital campaign (after *Joy of the Gospel* payments) is being considered to complete this church improvement project.