



# Forward In Faith Planning News

## ST. JAMES CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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## Parishioners Identify Priorities for St. James

**We need more space!** That was the number one issue that St. James' parishioners expressed in the Town Hall meetings and the survey.

This comes out of the realization that we are a growing parish and there is only so much we can do with the space we have. So what should be done?

### Next Steps

First, on February 12 the Pastoral Council, Finance Committee and Stewardship Committee voted to proceed with plans for a capital campaign to address the space issues of the church. This spring would be a time of gathering initial

information from contractors and architects to compare extending our current facilities with building a new church. Second, in the summer we would work with a specific architect to develop a Master Plan for the church.

Third, in the fall we would offer 15-20 dinner events for parishioners to dialogue with Fr. Mike, Fr. Timothy and other parish leaders to review the architectural drawings and



help shape the plans for expanding our current church or for building a new church.

Continued on reverse

## From Your Pastor

**Lord, listen to my prayer; turn your ear to my appeal.** Psalm 143, 1

Greetings to you,

First, let me express my appreciation to everyone who participated in the Town Hall meetings and filled out the survey. Your input will be extremely beneficial as together we make plans for the future of St. James.

As we go through the Master Plan process, your priorities will guide us. You made it clear that your

number one priority is more space for worship. We will make this a reality for St. James.

Please be sure to read the information on the backside as it reports on the feedback that was obtained from the meetings and surveys. As we move on to the next steps of assessing our options and embarking on a capital campaign, prayer will be central to our efforts. Keep in mind the Psalm noted at the beginning of my article. Let us always remember that we must

look to God for sustenance and direction.

As the new kid on the block, one of my priorities is getting to know each of you better in the upcoming months at parish-wide campaign events. These gatherings will be great opportunities to give input on the project plans as well as build community. Also please feel free to introduce yourselves after Mass or when you come to the parish during the week.

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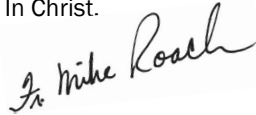
**St. James Catholic Community**  
**309 S. Stewart**  
**Liberty, MO 64068**

## **From Your Pastor** *continued from front*

We have taken the first step in moving forward with a capital campaign by forming a leadership committee comprised of members of the Pastoral Council, Finance Committee and Stewardship Committee. These leaders will provide guidance and direction for the campaign. Committee members are Julia Alsobrook, Father Timothy Armbruster, Phil Baumert, Todd Carmichael, Gerry Kimmel-Carr,

Daryl Johnson, Jim Newell, Judy Keisling, Cecilia Richardson, Father Mike Roach, Brianna Shay, Debby Taylor, Beth Waltemath and Jim Waterman.

In Christ.



### **VOLUNTEER MEETING** **Thursday, March 22, 2012**

6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Social Hall  
Light dinner provided  
Childcare available upon request  
***All interested in serving on a campaign team are invited.***

## **Parishioners Identify Priorities for St. James** *continued from front*

### **Parishioner Feedback**

The 228 individuals who attended the Town Hall meetings or replied to the survey, provided the following feedback.

### **What should be our long-term priorities?**

1. Build a new and larger church
2. More parking
3. Build a larger worship area
4. Expand existing worship space
5. Pay off debt

### **What should be our short-term priorities?**

1. Pay off debt
2. More parking
3. Fix or replace the pews
4. Add entrances/exits to parking

5. Update/maintain existing facility

### **What is one thing you would like to change about the parish?**

1. More parking
2. Better church/school relationship
3. Better fellowship in church
4. Need a new and larger church
5. Crucifix and Mary central, more statues and improved aesthetics
6. Expand current worship space

### **How could the parish better serve your spiritual needs?**

1. Provide more religious education opportunities for all ages
2. Vary times of confession and provide more opportunities
3. Provide opportunities for perpet-

ual adoration

4. More special masses/vary times
5. Be a more welcoming parish

### **What is the main thing you like about St. James Parish?**

1. Priests/staff do a wonderful job
2. Feeling of family in parish
3. People are great
4. School is a great asset
5. Many opportunities to serve
6. We have a very welcoming parish

We received many insightful comments about improving and expanding the faith formations of the church. These are being reviewed and organized by Fr. Mike, Fr. Timothy and Cecilia Richardson.