



Our Lady of Sorrows Church

Restore, Renew, Rejoice! Phase II Update

June 2017

Dear Parishioners,

I am pleased to announce that Phase II of our Restore, Renew, Rejoice! project will soon be underway! Following many months of exploring options to the original plans for this accessibility phase of the RRR! project (to limit the scope and cost), the Building Committee has approved a plan that still gives us a full-size elevator to replace our current lift, but uses the existing stairwell rather than demolishing it and creating a new one. Consultants are in the final stages of completing the detailed drawings and we anticipate beginning to dig out the new elevator pit this summer.

Again, we will rely on your patience and cooperation during this phase of the renovation. The southeast entrance will not be in use for the duration of the project. Despite our best efforts, we are unable to provide a temporary access ramp that will meet code requirements. To those who cannot climb stairs and will temporarily attend another parish during the renovation, we look forward to your return when our new accessible entrance is completed.

What we have accomplished so far, and the renovations that are soon to be underway, would not have been possible without the generous support of our parishioners. The funds pledged through the outpouring of generosity and sacrifice by our parish Families is astounding and inspiring. I would like to again give my genuine and heartfelt thanks to the families and individuals that helped make our parish *Family of Faith* combined capital campaign a success.

To recap, we completed the active fundraising stage for our parish's capital campaign in 2015. We are now in the pledge redemption stage of the campaign for those who have pledged for 5 years and we continue to accept donations from those making a series of 1-time donations.

As with all parishes in the Archdiocese of Toronto, a portion of the funds raised supports initiatives outlined in the Archdiocese of Toronto's Pastoral Plan. Those priorities include: financial support to parishes; supporting Catholic education through parish and campus based ministry to keep our youth engaged in an active life of faith; investing in resources that will help our clergy grow and be the pastoral leaders we all rely on them to be; ensuring there is a strong Catholic voice in an increasingly secular world; restoring and enhancing the beauty of St. Michael's Cathedral as the mother church of all Catholics in the archdiocese; establishing a new capital fund to provide financing to new churches and to support those parish communities that may be struggling with significant building issues.

The majority of the funds pledged were assigned for our own parish renovation project. *Any additional pledges and donations to the building project will be 100% invested in our parish renovation.* Phase I of this project was completed in late 2015 and included Fire & Life Safety upgrades (new Fire Alarm System, new electrical and improved lighting), painting of the church ceiling, cleaning of the mosaics, cleaning and refurbishment of the organ and renovation of the parish hall. Phase II includes a new accessible entrance and a fully accessible washroom.

A campaign such as this one does not end when pledges are made. Only through the continued timely fulfillment of your pledges can we continue with our renovations. To those families who are new to our parish community or were unable to pledge in 2015, we offer you the opportunity to be a part of this sacrificial initiative which will benefit parishioners for many years to come. Please contact the parish office for details on how you can participate.

Let us pray together for the success of Phase II,

Fr. Nino

"Heavenly Father we ask you to be with us as we work together as a family of faith, sharing and following the example of your son Jesus in loving service. May we be inspired by your divine love, as we share our time, talent and treasure to strengthen our family of faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen."

(Family of Faith Campaign Prayer)