



ST. MARGARET *of* YORK  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

## **Parish Update during COVID-19**

While we have been notified that St. Margaret of York will be allowed to resume public liturgies beginning May 25, it is a great reminder to all that we continue to serve our community in many ways. The parish has continued to offer Live Streaming Masses with the help of dedicated parishioners and staff. Fr. Bedel and Fr. Pasala have continued their priestly duties of catechizing the faithful through their videos and our weekly emails, and bulletins. The parish staff and school staff have continued to work remotely to serve the needs of the community. All of this work has been done with concern for being good stewards of God's gifts.

### **Financial status**

The Finance Commission and the entire staff would like to thank you for your financial support.

During this time of restricting Mass attendance to online participation, the financial offerings have been great. St. Margaret of York offerings have only been down 12.6% compared to the previous year for the same time period. While families cannot support in person, many have either mailed in their donations, drop them off or moved to online giving.

We continue to be mindful of the reductions in our offering dollars and seek opportunities to reduce expenses. One area of potential savings for the parish and school is obviously our gas and electric usage. Unfortunately, with the weather fluctuations, it is important that we do not allow the building temperatures to do the same. These fluctuations are the main culprit for moisture retention and potential mold development. The heat has still been utilized, but the air conditioning has not been used.

Another opportunity for savings is in the maintenance and cleaning schedules. TDG Facilities is our site contractor that manages everything from janitorial to maintenance needs. We have a fixed contract. However, the benefit of contracting with a Christian owned company is that they were willing to work with us at cutting the contract to meet our needs. The school cleaning and trash removal were reduced to one day a week. The church, which remained open for prayer was still cleaned and sanitized daily. Our new contract with TDG will save us an additional \$1,000 per month.

### **Parish Debt**

Recently we were able to negotiate a refinancing of our debt. On May 1, 2020, Archbishop Schnurr signed the refinanced loan for St. Margaret of York. The loan is still scheduled to be paid off on the same time schedule, but the total savings in interest expenses should be close to \$300,000.

### **All. In. Capital Campaign**

St. Margaret of York's campaign efforts are still moving forward. The planning for the next phase continues to take place. The focus of this phase is the inside portion of the sanctuary. During this time of COVID-19, the baptismal font located behind the priest chair was disassembled. The font which was installed when the building was constructed continued to leak since it was installed. Archbishop Schnurr blessed our new baptistry and font in October when our new entrance was dedicated.

Once again, Fr. Bedel, Fr. Pasala and the Parish staff would like to express our sincere appreciation for your patience and confidence during this unprecedented time. We look forward to joining together again in worship.