

Dear parishioners,

For more than ten years, Saint Luke Church has prayerfully sought to purchase the empty lot adjacent to the church for future parking needs and possible expansion of our church spaces. Despite our efforts, the owner of that property has chosen not to sell.

Several years ago, one of our generous parishioners donated \$60,000 specifically for the purchase of property adjoining the church. These funds were designated solely for that purpose and could not have been used toward the capital campaign or anything else.

About a month ago, the owner of the property located behind Saint Luke Church, at 103 Brown Street, approached us with an offer to sell their land and home—which extends half the length of our church property—before listing it publicly. After careful discernment, I convened the Finance Council, our Parish Council president, and the Property Committee chairperson to review this opportunity. Together, we agreed that pursuing this purchase would be in the best interest of our parish.

Through God's providence and the generosity of our community:

- The parishioner who donated \$60,000 agreed that these funds should be used for this purchase.
- The property owners graciously reduced the sale price by \$30,000, effectively donating that amount to our church.
- Another parishioner has pledged \$40,000 exclusively for the property purchase.

With these blessings, the total cost to Saint Luke Church was **\$70,000**, which was drawn from our general fund. Please note we did NOT use capital campaign funds for the purchase and those funds remain dedicated solely to the projects reflected in the renderings displayed on the monitor at the back of the church.

Looking ahead, this property will serve our parish well. In the future, it will provide space for additional parking and storage. In the meantime, we will rent the house to a parishioner, generating income.

This is a moment of thanksgiving for our parish family. We are grateful to God for opening this door, and to our parishioners whose generosity and faithfulness make such opportunities possible.

Let us continue to pray that this new property will serve Saint Luke Church for generations to come.

In opus ministerii,

Fr. Aldrin