



MARY MOTHER OF MARTYRS PARISH
CHURCHES OF ST. MARY & ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR

Dear Parishioners,

Lent is one of the seasons when we joyfully allow God to change our hearts to prepare us for spiritual renewal at Easter. As this season approaches, we are happy to offer you a brochure of liturgical celebrations and events that will help nourish your life as a Catholic and enjoy fellowship with others.

- Leading in a Renewed Church (LRC) is part of the Archdiocese's focus to ensure that each priest and parish are uniquely honored, supported, equipped, and vitalized. To this end, the Catholic Leadership Institute is piloting with 15 other U.S. dioceses, including the Archdiocese of Chicago, a survey in each parish to better understand the parish life, discipleship, and evangelization as well as the leadership strengths, and opportunities, and preferences of the presbyterate. These tools will provide self-reflection and feedback for priests and parishes as they build the new reality as part of Renew My Church.

The survey is available online (<https://www.marymotherofmartyrs.org>) and in printed copies from Ash Wednesday, February 22, to March 31, and will ask you to consider your spiritual growth and provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses are anonymous, and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. We will receive the results this spring/summer, at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish. Don't miss this opportunity to be heard.

- Regarding our Capital Projects, I want to inform you that in the spring of this year, the roof of the school building of St. Stephen's school will be replaced. The total cost of the project is \$ 471,875. The funds for this project have been secured, and the Archdiocese not only approved one of the three bids for this project but it is supervising the whole project. In addition, we have hired a consultant for \$ 11,400 to monitor the scope of the work.
- The second project we want to target this summer is resurfacing the St. Mary Parking Lot. The Finance Council recommended one of the bids we received for \$ 78,000. In addition, the lighting for the parking lot costs \$ 32,500. This project will be financed with the second collection for Capital Projects, which has totaled \$ 67,000 from July 2022 to December 2022, and some donations the parish has received from bequests.

May the journey of Lent helps us to continue deepening our lives in the Lord's mystery of salvation.

Sincerely yours in Ch

Rev. David Arcila, Pastor