



# St. Gabriel the Archangel

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## FAMILY OF PARISHES

January 21, 2026

Leadership Report

St. Gabriel Family of Parishes

### **Canonical Merger Process**

Thank you to all who participated in the Town Hall Meetings during October and November. The feedback generated during those conversations helped inform the Canonical Merger Petition, which is attached to this message. I spent a few days away in late November to write that petition and it has been reviewed by the Leadership Team, Executive Committee of the Pastoral Council, and the whole of Pastoral Council. Thank you for all who contributed to that review and I look forward to the final discussion on that during our time together on January 21.

The entire petition will include the petition itself, bulletin columns which addressed the process of growing together as a Family of Parishes, plus these leadership reports, and the Annual Report that we completed last Fall. The next Presbyteral Council meeting is February 9, I hope to have the petition before the Council for that meeting. If not, the following Council meeting is March 23.

### **Leadership Team**

The three primary 'Rocks' that the Leadership Team is addressing for 2026 are Communications, Facilities, and Technology. As we work on these three areas, we will certainly be bringing members of Pastoral Council into these conversations, as able.

We were able to hire Mr. Cameron Haller as our Chief Operating Officer. He begins with us on March 2, 2026, after completing his term as Chief of the Tipp City Fire Department. I look forward to working with him and seeing the gifts that he will bring to our Family of Parishes.

Sam Ritze, our Stewardship Director, is currently off on Paternity Leave, he and his wife Sonja welcomed their first child, a daughter, in late December.

## **Capital Projects**

The renovations at St. John the Baptist are fully completed, now. It looks great and I have heard nothing but praise for the work the committee did in designing, fundraising, and implementing such a beautiful transformation.

The HVAC project at St. Peter is under way, as well. It is also fully funded, thankfully, and is on schedule to be completed this Spring.

St. Christopher has taken full attention now. The scaffolding on the Church is to repair the glazing in the skylights over the top of the Altar. That work has been completed, but there is additional work to be completed while we have that scaffolding in place, especially since the largest part of the project was the scaffolding itself. Once it is tested after a rain shower, work will then move into the interior of the Church to repair the drywall and water damage that occurred due to the water incursion.

There are several other additional projects that will be undertaken at St. Christopher over the next few months, as well. The boilers and controls in the Church need to be updated, to remove proprietary controls systems and move towards and open source programming. We are painting the interior of the parish offices at St. Christopher and looking to replace flooring in both the offices and in the church at St. Christopher, as well. We are moving to install kneelers in the entirety of the Church, as well. Due to all of this, we will do some fundraising over the next few months to adequately cover all of these expenses.

At St. Christopher School, we are finally getting a few of the remaining projects from last summer completed. It continues to be rather frustrating to work with First OnSite, but it seems to finally be coming to an end. You will also notice that we are installing fencing and landscaping to protect the recess areas for the school. This is being paid for by safety grants that we were able to obtain.

Longer term, we are starting the process of expanding the schools at both Our Lady of the Rosary and St. Christopher due to the ongoing growth of enrollment. Mrs. Trentman has returned from her maternity leave in early January. While we were able to hold the school together in her absence, everyone is glad to have her back!

## **Faith Formation and Youth Ministry**

Not much to report in these areas, things are progressing and working as they should.

We do have a Mission-style event, sponsored by Hallow, here in late January. Josh Danis is coming to reflect with us on the importance of the saints and how to follow their example.

In March, I will be doing a four-part series on Prayer from the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

This year, our focus is on Prayer as the Heartbeat of the Christian life. Hence, much of our faith formation programming will have that as a focus.

We currently have well over 50 participants in the OCIA process. We open up a new group as people come forward. Currently, we have three main cohorts working through the process, plus a few other individuals working through various stations and situations.

## **Catholic Schools**

Catholic Schools Week is the last full week of January. During this week, re-enrollment opens for current families. We are in the process of finalizing tuition for next school year.

## **Finances**

I don't yet have the final reports for the Christmas collection, Norm is on this email and can hopefully provide a status update for us.