

33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We had such positive feedback from the launch of our new capital campaign. Many thanks to all who have already given so generously, and for our great committee, who has diligently looked into these four areas we are addressing.

As a recap, we are looking to accomplish three important goals: 1) To create two large bathrooms for men and women and recover the sacristy space that will be lost in the process. This will also include replacing the floor tile and make the gathering space more pleasing; 2) Flood mitigation to include improving drainage from the parking lot, installing permeable pavers, rerouting the downspouts to better disperse water from the building, and thoroughly caulk and seal the exterior and interior of the ground-floor of the cathedral; 3) Finally refitting the workhorse of our parish – the kitchen in the cathedral hall. (\$100,000 has already been given toward this!) A final aspect of the project is to pay off the debt from the 2018 campaign.

The good news that we already have almost \$400,000 towards our \$1.5 million dollar goal. Thank you to all those who have made a gift and/or pledge. Participation is the key – not a particular amount. Those who can give more, please do; but it truly is the participation of every family in any way that will help us meet our goal. In my experience, God always makes up the difference. I mentioned that this is the first campaign that I am not hesitant to introduce because every person will benefit from the renovations and improvements our committee has identified.

A couple of weeks ago, I mentioned how sad we were to lose Fr. Gustavo, who was leading our Hispanic community here at the Cathedral and was reassigned to two large communities in Hilton Head and Bluffton. The good news is that beginning the First Sunday of Advent, Fr. Bobby Joseph, parochial vicar at Blessed Sacrament parish in West Ashley, will begin helping me cover our Masses in Spanish. We are blessed to have his help.

In order to accommodate schedules, we will need to move the Sunday evening Spanish Mass to half an hour later. So, beginning the First Sunday of Advent, December 1, the Sunday evening Mass in Spanish will begin at 6:30pm.

Thanksgiving Day is right around the corner on Thursday, November 28. We will celebrate Holy Mass for Thanksgiving Day at 10:00am. *“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His mercy endures forever!” (Psalm 107:1)*

Father Wilson

*God our Father, Giver of every good gift, we ask for your inspiration and strength as we glorify your name through the work of our capital campaign. May your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, by His work of redemption on the cross, bless the labors of our hands. May He, through the intercession of His Forerunner, St. John the Baptist, fill us with the Holy Spirit and bring our work to completion, all for your greater glory and the salvation of souls!*