



SAINT JOHN FISHER PARISH

March 15, 2021

Dear Parishioners:

We celebrated good news a few weeks ago with the reopening of the church at 25% capacity. Each week, we see more parishioners returning to celebrate Mass in the church, while we continue offering live streaming of the Mass for those who are not ready to return. I am so grateful for your continual support, whether in person, by mail, or through *Faith Direct*. It not only has kept our services going but tells us that you are still with us even amid this terrible pandemic.

I am also happy to report that our parish school is now offering on-campus classes for children from grades Transitional Kindergarten through 6th Grade. It has been so great to hear happy voices of children as they reunite with their classmates after a year of remote learning.

The recent approval of the vaccine by Johnson and Johnson gives us added hope that more and more of us will be vaccinated. Whichever vaccine is available, please take advantage of the opportunity when it is offered. With continued vaccinations, we look forward to reduced restrictions and a return to normalcy.

As you may recall, we were in the middle of *Campaign 21: Completing the Vision*, when we paused the campaign due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This campaign, designed to complete the master plan that was begun when we built the church, is linked with the Los Angeles Archdiocese-wide *Called to Renew* campaign, a five-year effort to address critical infrastructure repairs and improvements across all parishes. The pandemic has made us aware that our current parish offices, reception area, and meeting rooms do not meet the social distancing restrictions that will likely be required for the foreseeable future. Between our school and over 80 active ministries, the capacity of the meeting rooms is insufficient and will be further constrained when we gather again with stricter spacing protocols. The *Msgr. Eugene A. Gilb Pastoral Center* will be critical to addressing these existing issues as we move into the future.

Prior to pausing the campaign, many of your fellow parishioners already stepped forward to support this important effort sacrificially. Through the generosity of those initial donors, we have already received pledges of over \$5 million toward our goal of \$8 million and have deposited nearly \$2.5 million into the campaign account.

We are prayerfully discerning when to resume our efforts. Over the next few weeks, a member of the campaign executive committee may contact you to discuss your willingness to support the campaign. Your response to these members will be an important factor to help determine when to restart for all parishioners *Campaign 21: Completing the Vision*.

I am doing my best to be thoughtful and empathetic to the human and financial effects of this crisis. If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. David A. Sork
Pastor