



Saint Joseph Catholic Church

LLC Series 230

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Dear Beloved Family of St. Joseph Catholic Church,

As we begin this new year together, our hearts are filled with gratitude for each one of you. You are the living stones that make St. Joseph Parish a true home of faith, hope, and love. Today we wish to share an important update with you, and to ask for your patience, understanding, and continued trust as we take a significant step toward caring for our spiritual home.

Beginning **January 4th through (God willing) March 28th**, our beloved church will undergo a much-needed repainting project. This renewal will preserve the beauty and dignity of the house of God entrusted to us. While this work fills us with hope for the future, it also means we must journey together through a temporary season of inconvenience and adjustment.

During this time, **all Masses will be celebrated in the Social Hall**, which can safely hold a limited number of people. This limit is not simply a matter of preference; it is a fire-safety requirement, and exceeding it would create a fire hazard and may result in fines for the parish. Thank you for helping us honor this limitation with love and care for one another.

Because our seating will be more limited:

- **We kindly ask that no seats be saved.** This ensures fairness and allows us to welcome everyone as they arrive.
- During the consecration and the preparation for Holy Communion, parishioners may **stand or kneel**, as long as seats are not occupied during these reverent moments.
- For those who cannot use the stairs, **the Monks' Room will remain accessible.** Mass will be livestreamed, and Holy Communion will be brought to those present.

Because of the limitations of our temporary worship space, the following celebrations must be paused until the project is complete:

- No funeral Masses

- No weddings
- No quinceañeras

We understand the weight these changes may bring, and we hold each affected family tenderly in prayer.

To help distribute attendance more evenly, we warmly encourage parishioners to consider the **Saturday 5:30 pm or 7:00 pm Masses**, or the **Sunday 8:30 am Mass**, which tend to be the least crowded. Your willingness to adjust for the good of the parish means more than you know.

Please remember that during this time, **there will be no kneelers in the Social Hall**. If kneeling on the hard floor is difficult, you are welcome to bring a small kneeling pad or cushion.

The last Mass in the church before the project begins will be on **January 4th**.

We also ask for special patience and courtesy in the parking lot during these months of transition. As always, our parish parking area is very limited, and the temporary changes may increase congestion. To help keep traffic safe and orderly, **please use the lot beside the church**, and note that we will be implementing a **one-way entrance at the 24th Street gate** and a **one-way exit at the Adams Avenue gate**. Your cooperation will greatly assist in ensuring a smooth and considerate flow for everyone, especially the elderly, families with children, and those with mobility concerns.

Dear brothers and sisters, change can be unsettling, but with God's grace it also becomes an opportunity for deeper unity and renewed love. As one family of St. Joseph Catholic Church, let us walk this path together with patience, charity, and hope. May this project not only refresh our building but also strengthen us as a parish rooted in Christ and guided by the gentle protection of St. Joseph.

Thank you, from the depths of our hearts, for your understanding, your sacrifices, and your steadfast love for our parish. Let us keep one another in prayer and entrust this entire project to the Holy Spirit, who guides all things for the glory of God.

With our love, prayers, and blessing,
Priests and Staff of St. Joseph Catholic Church
