



February 16, 2024

Dear Members of the St. Charles Borromeo Parish Community,

As we journey into the New Year, we, the Parish Pastoral Council of St. Charles Borromeo Church, extend our warmest greetings and prayers for a year filled with blessings, love, and growth in faith. We look forward to the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, guided by our Parish mission to live and communicate the values of Christ in the world:

We, the family of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, dedicate ourselves to our faith in God. We celebrate our faith through the Eucharist, proclaim our faith through the Gospel, and express our faith by seeking to build a community that is a living testimony of the power of God's love for His children.

As we enter the solemn season of Lent with Ash Wednesday, coinciding with the feast of St. Valentine, let us resolve to make this year a testament to love—for one another and for our communities. Let love guide our actions and inspire us to serve with compassion and generosity.

We recently welcomed our new pastor, Father Joseph Gibino, to our parish family. Father Gibino brings with him a deep commitment to shepherding our community on our journey of faith, a devotion to educating our children in the Faith, and a joyful appreciation of life. His leadership will enrich our spiritual lives and strengthen our bonds of fellowship.

At the same time, we bid farewell to two esteemed council members, Alicia Washington and our chair, Carol DeSantis, who have served our parish with dedication and distinction. Their contributions have been invaluable, and we express our deepest gratitude for their service.

As we look to the future, there is much to anticipate and celebrate. This year marks the 175th anniversary of our parish. We will celebrate this milestone in the fall. We are excited to commence our series on "Built of Living Stones" in anticipation of church renovations. We will discuss the Church's teaching and liturgical theology and reflect upon our parish history and individual tastes. We want your participation as we renovate the structure and renew our parish community, marking an important milestone in the history of our parish. Additionally, we will embark on the development of a new five-year strategic plan, charting a course for our continued growth and outreach.

Reflecting on the past year, we take pride in the progress we have made as a community. We have strengthened the bonds of fellowship within our parish through various meet and greets, cookouts, and our annual fish fry. We have connected with community groups through charitable initiatives, including the gifting of toys and gift cards. We completed the renovation of our bathrooms, enhancing the facilities for the benefit of all.

We encourage you to share your time, talent, and interests with us. Whether through participation in our worship committee, fundraising efforts, or other ministries, there are countless ways to contribute to the life and vitality of St. Charles Borromeo Parish. We particularly need Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, volunteers to plan our parish social gatherings, artists, ushers, and greeters. Your involvement is essential to our continued growth as a faith community.

Let us approach this year ahead with hearts open to the transformative power of God's love. May our shared journey be one of faith, hope, and joy, as we celebrate the 175th anniversary of St. Charles Borromeo Parish and continue to build a community grounded in the love of Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Francis Chin and Kerin Coughlin,
Trustees

Carol DeSantis, Sabrina Gates, Alexandra Gupta,
Mike McGowan, Gloria Rosado, and Tevin Williams
Parish Pastoral Council