



Pray. Serve. Spread the Gospel with Joy.

FURTHERING OUR MISSION

Dear Parishioners of St. Thomas More,

At the Masses last weekend, the priests spoke about the effort we have undertaken to acquire Aldersgate United Methodist Church, as that community has discerned that it is time to move to a smaller location. In my letter in the bulletin, you were able to read about the various aspects of this project and how it will allow us to **Further our Mission** as a parish community.

On August 15, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we submitted an offer to purchase the property. A very wise priest friend of mine has been in similar situations, and he told me that before he would attempt to purchase land or buildings, he would always pray the *Memorare*:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Therefore, on Tuesday, I prayed that prayer as I drove by Aldersgate and entrusted this effort to Mary on behalf of the parish. I left it in her hands that day.

On Wednesday, the Aldersgate Church Council met to consider our offer. I am happy to tell you that our offer was accepted and, by God's grace and the Blessed Mother's help, our South Campus Project will become a reality! Within the next year, we will have a daily Mass Chapel, additional multi-use space, a new home for Chapel Hill-Carrboro Meals and Wheels, and we will open the St. Thomas More Early Childhood Center. We will **Further our Mission to Pray, Serve and Spread the Gospel with Joy!** The planned closing on the property will be in early December after a 90-day investigation period.

However, we need your help to make this happen. The fundraising has already begun and we have pledges in hand. There will be receptions in the month of October where parishioners will be able to learn more about this project and consider making a gift. The reception dates and times are below and will take place in Friends and Family Hall.

Thursday, 10/5 at 7:15pm
Sunday, 10/8 at 8:45am
Sunday, 10/8 at 3:00pm in Spanish
Wednesday, at 10/11 7:00pm
Sunday, 10/15 at 10:30am
Saturday, 10/21 at 6:30pm
Wednesday, 10/25 at 1:00pm
Sunday, 10/29 at 12:30pm

Please place one of these receptions on your calendar. Invitations and more information will be forthcoming.

As part of the approval of the Finance Plan, the diocese has set a couple of benchmarks that we need to meet. We must have \$750,000 in pledges by our closing date and we must have \$1M in pledges before we can occupy or make any

changes to the campus. I am more than confident in our ability to meet and surpass these benchmarks.

Please prayerfully consider how you will participate in this exciting project in the life and history of our parish. Please pray for this effort as well. Perhaps you can pray the *Memorare* each day for this intention.

I am excited that what was once a possibility is now a reality as we move forward with our South Campus Project in **Furthering our Mission** as a parish community!

In His Love,



Very Rev. Scott E. McCue, V.F.
Administrator



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