



## Questions and Answers

### **What is the data that supports the need for more pews?**

If everyone who is currently registered at St. Vincent DePaul Parish would attend one of our four weekend Masses, we would need more pews. Currently, the Church holds about 550 people. Registration is currently at 1,600 families. On average, a family is usually three people. This would equate to 4,800 people. 4,800 divided by our four Masses would be 1,200 people at each Mass. This would mean that our current Church space would be lacking space for 650 people. Increasing seating space at this time to 650 is both possible and appropriate.

### **What is the interest in the Events Center?**

For example, how often does the Parish turn away receptions? The interest in the new kitchen and Parish Family Center is to consolidate many of the current activities in a space that could serve a variety of meals. Some of these meals include funeral dinners (currently limited to 70 family members because of limited space in the Lower Meeting Room), PCCW dinners, St. Gerard Circle activities, Men's Association, Knights of Columbus meals, Vincent Vittles, Lenten Fish Fries, receptions for Baptismal parties, receptions for marriages, wedding anniversaries, liturgical celebrations (Pentecost and Guadalupe), and family reunions.

The Parish does not have to turn away many of these events because people do not ask to have their reception here at St. Vincent. This is because there is really no place to have these events other than the Lower Meeting Room.

### **Are we updating the gym during the remodel and where will school sporting activities occur during the remodel?**

Yes, plans to update the gym and the stage are being planned for this remodel. The gym will still be able to be used during the remodel.

### **What is the plan for school growth in the future and will there be more classrooms?**

Our current school space is adequate. Plans are to now excel in quality leadership, staff, and teachers. There are double homerooms for each grade level from preschool to eighth grade, and no more classrooms will be added.

### **Why aren't we completing the Gathering Space and Sanctuary in the Church first?**

By completing the Parish Family Center first, there will be space to have Mass while the construction is being completed in the Church.

### **Are we using local contractors?**

We hope to be able to use local contractors just like we used local architects and companies for the design phase.

### **What will happen to the current office building? Will it be razed?**

The current office building, which was the original convent for the Sisters of Loretto, will eventually be razed. It was built in 1957 and has seen many good years. After the Parish Offices have moved to the new location in the Parish Family Center, the space will probably be used temporarily for storage of items for the school.

### **What will happen to the old convent?**

The old convent, on the north side of the campus nearest to the Fairmount and New Lorimier Cemeteries, will continue to be used for Maxine's Shareable Wearables and meeting rooms. This building, originally built in 1956, was occupied by the School Sisters of Notre Dame when they taught at Notre Dame High School.