

Dear Parish Family,

I want to begin by acknowledging and thanking all those who have given so generously so far to our capital campaign. As I explained earlier none of the projects were able to begin without 80% of the funds in the bank, and 100% committed. It is with a humble and grateful heart that we have already completed our roofing project, and work will begin on bathrooms in next couple of weeks. Lastly, I received word today from the diocese we are approved and vetted to begin work on the mosaic and baptismal font.

On the art projects themselves it's a lot of back and forth with many details, pertaining to color, size shapes, engineering etc. The artists must design and submit materials and architectural drawings to the diocese for approval. The diocese, in turn asks that this or that be changed or added. An example would be the standing part of the baptismal font which they wanted wider so there would be no chance of hitting the sides for a full emersion etc.... We have reached our goal of 80% in our account, and the project can begin as of today. However, it will not be installed till the spring, as now the artists can begin to work and materials may be purchased, and the space made ready.

It is truly a testament to the good people of St. Raphael, who have graciously offered their sacrifices and gifts to God for these works which will inspire and play a major part in the church's sacraments for future generations and for the Glory of God. May the Lord reward you all a hundred fold for your selflessness and loving commitment to St. Raphael's Capital campaign.

The project we are looking to next, is our reredos and sanctuary flooring. We have already sent preliminary drawings to the diocese, and they are assessing the drawings. The last project in the Church would be lighting fixtures. Other projects include a working kitchen off the gym and church doors. There is also an opportunity to support the school endowment fund to subsidize teachers' salaries.

I just wanted to give an update this week and will write more as we move forward. Thank you again for your generous donations to the capital campaign. If you have not yet given or would like to support our capital campaign, please see the link on parish web site or folders are available at the welcome desk.

Pax,

Fr Dan