

ST. MATTHEW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

September 23-24, 2006

Issue #1

Campaign Begins!

The campaign for a new, multi-purpose *Parish Community Center* at St. Matthew's is underway! The effort began this week, and it will continue until just after Thanksgiving.

We would like to thank all of you who participated in last year's Feasibility Study (**45** members of the St. Matthew's were *personally interviewed*, and **over 200** *mail surveys* were returned). Your insights and opinions were instrumental in helping lead us to this point of departure. Some observations...

- Interviewees and mail survey respondents have a great deal of pride in St. Matthew's, and they feel *this is an active, diverse worship community*.
- Study participants feel *our lack of facilities is very constricting*, and feel that a new Parish Community Center is *needed and would enhance our parish life*.
- A number of study participants expressed a *desire and commitment to become involved* in a campaign.

As a result of the Feasibility Study, as well as related discussion and analysis, the *parish council, finance council, and the school board* all determined that St. Matthew's should go forth with plans to build a new multi-purpose facility, termed the *Parish Community Center*.

The Parish Community Center will be a multi-dimensional facility that will provide the St. Matthew's family with a single site for social, educational, and athletic events. Many of our primary parish and school activities will take place here - e.g., celebrations, performances, assemblies, athletic events, etc. This new facility will bring the entire parish together under one roof, multiplying our meeting spaces and keeping our children's sports activities on the campus, while simultaneously providing them greater possibilities for music and the arts. *In essence, it will offer a more expansive location for parish gatherings while further enriching our schoolchildren's educational experience.*

The new center will be built just east of the parish and school offices, adjacent to El Camino Real. The current Kitchen will remain untouched; Ward Hall and the auditorium will be refurbished. The Center's many functions and facets will include:

- *Recreational Facility* – a gymnasium to host basketball and volleyball games for all grades. It will be home to our sports program.
- *Multi-purpose meeting rooms* – providing much-needed space for our many clubs, organizations, and committees to gather. The center will be structured so that it can accommodate multiple meetings, classes, and receptions simultaneously, if necessary.
- *Stage* – parish and school performances and events
- *Auditorium* – All large-scale functions will take place here. As examples, the auditorium will be home for our parish-wide meetings, dinners, and receptions.
- *Casa* - housing our pre-school and after-school program during the day, and to be used as meeting rooms in the evening
- *Music Room & Art Room* - enriching our parish's educational experience
- *Team Rooms, Storage Rooms, and Men's & Women's restrooms*

The estimated cost to build this new facility is approximately \$6,000,000. We envision utilizing \$2,000,000 of our parish savings, borrowing \$1,500,000 from the Archdiocese, and *raising \$2.5 million in this fund raising effort.*