

Sursum Corda!

Newsletter of THE CO-CATHEDRAL of the SACRED HEART
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

SACRED HEART'S MAJOR EXPANSION UNDERWAY



CATHEDRAL CENTRE AT CATHEDRAL PLACE

The CO-CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART Parish has embarked upon its largest expansion in its 111 year history. 2008 will see the opening of the new 2000 seat Co-Cathedral and the opening of Cathedral Centre. In December 2006, the Co-Cathedral parish purchased the former Federal Reserve Bank Building at 1701 San Jacinto and Jefferson Streets, adjacent to the new Co-Cathedral which is currently under construction. The newly acquired building has been named Cathedral Centre.

Built by the federal government for use as the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas - Houston Branch, the building contains nearly 100,000 square feet of space. There are three stories, a full basement and a 4th floor penthouse. Cathedral Centre, which is scheduled to open in Spring 2008, is currently undergoing renovations and upgrades to adapt the space for the parish's use.

Cathedral Centre will provide the Co-Cathedral parish community with classrooms and meeting rooms for adults, youth and young children. It will also include the pastoral and administrative offices. In addition, there are plans for a coffee shop, book store and gift shop, fitness center, parish hall, youth rooms, nursery and child care center, music rooms, parish library, multi media rooms and a cafeteria. Cathedral Centre will also be home to the Archives of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston .

space needs which have resulted from the tremendous growth that Sacred Heart has experienced over the last several years. In 1999, the parish counted 350 registered households. Today, nearly 2400 households are registered and attend the Co-Cathedral Parish. With the opening of the new Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in April, the parish is expected to experience continued growth.

Cathedral Centre is but a part of the major expansion for Sacred Heart. The four blocks in the southwestern section of the Houston's Central Business District near Midtown will now be known as Cathedral Place. This area of downtown has long been home to Catholic institutions; St. Joseph's Infirmary (1887), Sacred Heart Parish (1896) and the Chancery (1962).

A master plan includes the eventual demolition of the former school building for surface parking and the removal of the parking lot behind the current church to replace the asphalt lot with a landscaped park to be known as Cathedral Green. *There are currently no plans for the removal of the rectory or the present church building* which was built in 1912. The hopes are that it may remain as a chapel for smaller liturgies and prayer services, such as weddings , funerals, vespers and Eucharistic adoration. The ultimate decision on the future of the old church resides with Cardinal DiNardo.

The purchase of the building was necessary to meet the

In the Heart of Christ

Most priests never get the chance to build anything. In fact, most priests avoid such projects because of the problems and stresses it involves. I am in the midst of two building projects, the new Co-Cathedral and Cathedral Centre. How did this come to me? I am not an engineer or a builder and I am certainly not a fundraiser. But I am blessed by the Lord to be here at this moment in the history of Sacred Heart. The only thing that makes sense to me for this unique challenge is that I know I am not qualified to be a “builder priest” or “a brick and mortar minister”. No, that is definitely not me. My love, my passion is the opportunity to be part of the building of the Church as the Mystical Body of Christ. There are few things that can equal the experience of seeing someone come into the Catholic Church through the RCIA. There is no joy that equals that of seeing someone estranged from the church come home and joyfully embrace the Catholic Faith. The nicest problem a pastor can have is admitting each week that his church is too small for all the people who want to come.

These things don't just happen. They have to be worked at! One has to want more people to become Catholic or return to the practice of the faith or to start coming to mass more regularly. When the pastor lay ministers and the parish as whole desire these things, prays for them and works at them, then miracles happen. This is the real building project here at Sacred Heart. I am just happy to be part of it and invite you to join us!

Father Troy

New Staff Members at Sacred Heart

This fall sees the addition of some new smiling faces here at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart as we see our staff grow to better serve the members of the parish. New to the Co-Cathedral staff are **Raphael Villareal**, Pastoral Associate for Family and Youth Formation. Also new is **Bonnie Sheeren**, Pastoral Assistant for Family and Youth Formation. Both come to Sacred Heart with many years of experience and dedication in serving families and youth. In our Music Department, we welcome **Chris Popelka** as Director of Music and Cathedral Organist and **David San Miguel**, Assistant Director of Music. They too come to our Cathedral parish with years of experience. Chris comes to us from St. John Vianney Church in West Houston and David was most recently at St. Francis De Sales Church in Sharpstown. Chris and Raphael are both completing their doctoral studies in their respective fields. Chris is a native Houstonian who has served in churches in Texas and Arizona. Raphael has had pastoral experience in the Dallas area and California prior to coming to Houston. Bonnie, a long time member of the parish, comes to us from serving as a teacher in HISD. David is originally a native of San Angelo in west Texas prior to relocating to Houston for studies at the U of H. **Cheryl Kirkpatrick**, who joined the parish staff in January is continuing her service to the parish by coordinating the ministry to Youth and Young Adults. We are blessed to welcome each of these fine individuals to our excellent pastoral staff.

Christmas Schedule

4th Sunday of Advent

Vigil - Sat., Dec. 22	5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. (VN)
Sunday, Dec. 23	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. (VN) 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. (VN)

Christmas

Christmas Eve	4:00 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 24	6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. (Span) 11:15 p.m. carols 12:00 a.m. Midnight
Christmas Day	7:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 25	8:00 a.m. (VN) 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. (VN)

Dedication for New Cathedral set for April

History will be made April 2, 2008 when the new Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart will be dedicated in solemn ceremonies by His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston. He will be joined by cardinals, archbishops and bishops from throughout the United States and the globe as well as civic dignitaries and honored guests in the inaugural events of this long awaited moment.

The new Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart will have the capacity to seat nearly 2000 people for extraordinary events. Adorned with marble, sculptures of wood and stone, stained and jeweled glass and cast bronze pieces of art, the new Co-Cathedral will be an immediate new landmark in the Houston. This temple to the glory of God will also be the home to one of the fastest growing and most dynamic parishes in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.

There will be two weeks of inaugural events, for members of the archdiocese, the parish family, as well as for the larger community. Dedication events will include special masses for different groups from the archdiocese, concerts, prayer services, interfaith and ecumenical programs and other festivities. The Dedication Mass will be by invitation only, but tours

will begin immediately afterwards on Wednesday April 2 and continue throughout the two week Inauguration Celebration. All events after the Dedication Mass will be open to the public.

The new Co-Cathedral was initiated and has been overseen by Archbishop emeritus Joseph A. Fiorenza. Plans began in the fall of 1999. Major funding for the new project along with twenty-five other projects for the archdiocese came from a capital campaign that raised over \$101 Million in pledges. In 2000 Zeigler Cooper Architects were selected along with Linbeck Construction. In 2004, Rohn & Associates were selected to be the lead liturgical and artistic designers. The Executive Committee for the cathedral is *Archbishop Fiorenza, Bishop Vincent Rizzotto and Father R. Troy Gately*, rector of the Co-Cathedral.

Special guests for the dedication will include many of the artists and artisans from throughout the world who have labored so extensively on the artwork of the building over the last five years. Artists for the Cathedral have come from Italy, Germany, Romania, Poland, Holland as well as the United States. Materials for the building and the art come from Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas.

Capital Campaign Reaches \$3.4 Million

A Place for the Heart Capital Campaign for the purchase and renovations of the former Federal Reserve Bank building for use by the Co-Cathedral parish has reached the \$3.4 million mark. The goal of \$4,000,000 is now within sight. Pledges to the campaign have ranged from \$100 to \$100,000.

Initiated in the Spring of 2007, with a series of informational receptions and tours of the facility, the campaign has held two commitment weekends which resulted in more than \$1.2 million in pledges. The parish is still in need of raising the additional \$600,000 to reach its goal. These funds are necessary to pay off the debt resulting from the purchase and re-modeling of the building. More than \$2 million was required to

bring the building into compliance of fire, safety and building codes as the federal government was exempt from these regulations.

The Capital Campaign has been successfully led by parishioner *Patrick Pacheco*. Other committee members include *Jacki Abrams, Robert Benford, Steve Campbell, Pasty Costas Maria Forero, Yvonne Gill, Iggy Grillo, Steve Hulse and Susan McCarthy*. In addition more than 300 volunteers have assisted with mailings, phone calls, receptions and tours.

To make your pledge and help us reach our goal, please call the parish office or drop your pledge envelope in the mail or in the Sunday collection.



Weekend Masses: (English) Saturday Vigil **5:30 pm**. Sunday **7:00, 9:30, 11:00 am & 5:30 pm**

(Spanish) **7:00 p.m.** (Vietnamese) Sat. Vigil **7:00 p.m.**, Sun. **8:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.**

Weekday Masses: 7:00 a.m. & 12:10 noon (Mon-Fri)

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursdays 7:30 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

Novena to Mother of Perpetual Help every Wednesday, Novena to the Sacred Heart every Friday,

His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo

Archbishop of Galveston-Houston

The Most Reverend Joseph A. Fiorenza

Archbishop Emeritus of Galveston-Houston

The Most Reverend Joe S. Vasquez, Auxiliary Bishop,

The Most Reverend Vincent M. Rizzotto Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus

Cathedral Clergy

The Very Reverend R. Troy Gately, Rector

Reverend Thu N. Nguyen, JCL, Parochial Vicar

Reverend Charles Talar, Ph.D., STD, In Residence

Marvin R. Fikac, Johnny Salinas, Deacons

Cathedral Staff

Yvonne Gill - Pastoral Associate for Adult Formation & Parish Life,

Raphael Villareal - Pastoral Associate for Youth & Family Formation,

Bonnie Sheeren - Pastoral Assistant, Cheryl Kirkpatrick - Youth & Young Adult Coordinator,

Chris Popelka - Director of Music/Cathedral Organist, David San Miguel -Asst. Dir. of Music,

John Carrara - Business Manager, Sr. Louis Marie Carter, OSU - Parish Accountant,

Jo Lynn Zann, Dee Brennan - Secretaries, Chris Felix - Plant Manager,

Trong Nguyen - Sexton, Tom Anders - St. Vincent de Paul Society

Sursum Corda is Latin for the phrase "Lift up your hearts". This invitation is used in the Preface Dialogue of every Mass. It is an invitation for us to give our hearts, our lives, our entire beings to God in prayer and in every action of our lives.

Sursum Corda is also the invitation to all to join in the excitement and the activities of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart.

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Newsletter of The Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart

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in the Heart of Houston*

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