

State of the Parish

2024 Discernment Meeting

Rev. Jon Thomas, 2024-05-08

The Frame



Father James Lavelle: He was a good man, your husband?

Teresa: Yes. He was a good man. We had a very good life together. We loved each other very much. And now... he has gone. And that is not unfair. That is just what happened. But many people don't live good lives. They don't feel love. That is why it's unfair. I feel sorry for them.

Mission

- Coats and diapers will not save the world
- Renewing relationships will
- Our donations must be a sign of - not a substitute for - our relationship with the poor
- *Only* donating to the poor can alienate us from the reality that rich and poor have the same fundamental problem: bad relationships
- Christian spirituality is the answer

Transcendence in the Triune God -

**as children of the Father, siblings of the Son,
and living temples of the Holy Spirit -**

through the Incarnation of the Son

who became one of us in order to save us

Mission

- Many other organizations in Haddonfield fight poverty
- We are the only organization that offers the fullness of the Christian faith

**“You say you care about the poor?
Then tell me, what are their names?”**

Fr. Gustavo Gutiérrez, OP, Professor Emeritus, University of Notre Dame

Pastoral Updates

New Programs

Beginning this September

#1

Question of the Week

#2

Local Mission with SSJNC

Program

#1

Question of the Week

“We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community.”

Dorothy Day (1897-1980)

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Spring 2023	Advent 2023	2024
Walking with Purpose Women's Ministry										
						That Man is You Men's Ministry				
							Blaze Girls Ministry			
								Strive Boys Ministry		
									Small Groups	

	Curriculum-based Groups	Small Groups
Schedule	Weekly during school year	Weekly during Advent/Lent or year-round
Location	Campus	Home
Content	Curriculum provided by outside organization	Discussion guides based on Sunday Scriptures
Format	Large group presentation followed by small group discussion	Small group discussion

Working Goal

**Every churchgoing parishioner
belongs to a small group**

Strategy

X We can only promote so much

- Bulletin blurbs
- Altar announcements
- Facebook posts
- E-mails
- Postal mail letters and postcards

✓ Sometimes we need to change our structures

- Maybe people know what we offer but it doesn't suit them
- Pope Francis called this the "missionary option" "so that the Church's... times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today's world"

Question of the Week

- The question is based on the Sunday Scriptures
 - We may provide three questions, for (1) adults, (2) teens, and (3) children
- The questions are posted along with the text of the referenced Scripture reading and a standard prayer, probably addressed to Christ the King, to conclude the time of faith sharing
- The questions can be used by ministries for 15-20 minutes at the beginning of their regular meetings
- The questions can also be used by households, perhaps before a meal

Program

#2

Local Mission with SSJNC

Local mission

Explanation

- Some parishes have foreign missions - a place abroad to which they send parishioners on annual service trips
- We now have a local mission with the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Center (SSJNC) in the Cramer Hill section of Camden
- It is a two-year agreement, September '24 through August '26
 - ✓ We will provide them with significant volunteer hours and donations
 - ✓ They will provide us, from homebound parishioners to youth, opportunities for education, advocacy, and service

Local mission

Explanation

- During the agreement, we have asked existing community outreach ministries to work with the Neighborhood Center and we will not start new outreach unless connected to the Center
- The local mission succeeds our three-year Social Justice Sunday speaker series as the parish's primary vehicle for community outreach
- In fact, the Center's executive director, Sister Bonnie, was one of our Social Justice Sunday speakers

Local mission

Goals

Over two years, we believe the focused availability of our parish to a single community organization will:

1. Build new and strengthen existing relationships among our parishioners who will serve side by side at the same place
2. Build meaningful relationships with our neighbors in Camden whom we will see regularly over the two years
3. Be transformative for us and for SSJNC

Local mission

Location

- 5.5 miles away
- 18 minute drive



Sunday First

2019 v. 2023

	2019	2023	% Change
Baptisms	101	121	20% 
Weddings	20	29	45% 
Sunday Mass Attendance	766	738	4% 
Offertory	\$920,095	\$894,771	4% 

Sunday First

- ✓ Lawn signs with the Mass schedule posted along our property Saturday evening through Sunday afternoon
- ✓ Parking lot attendants after 9 and 11 AM Masses
- ✓ Enhanced vestibule with tightly organized donation space and shelf with Catholic pamphlets
- ✓ Enhanced welcome and coordination of baptism families

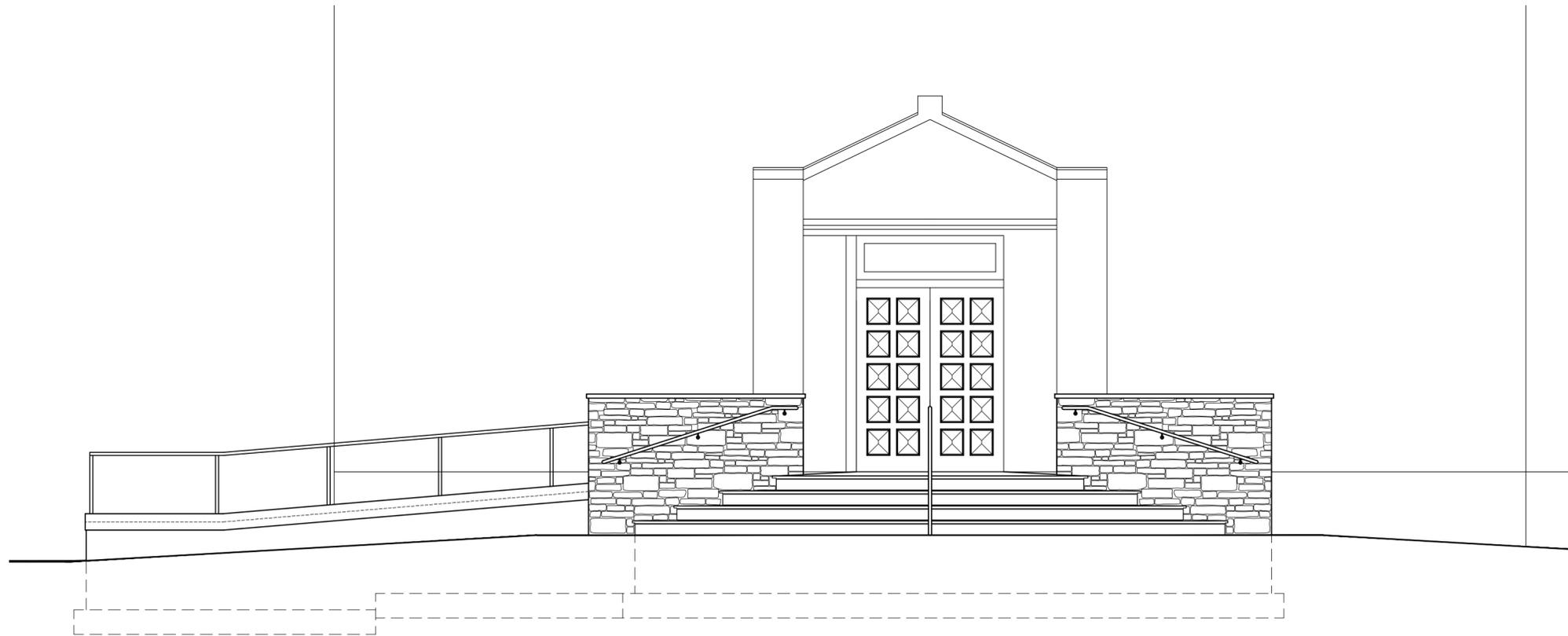
Business Updates

Projects

1. Patio accessibility

- Current ADA ramp from Hopkins Avenue to side door replaced by steps
- New ADA ramp from main lot to main entrance of church added
- Part of patio wall behind Christ the King statue replaced by wide steps

Schedule	Funding Source
Application was submitted on Monday for borough approval	Catholic Strong



PROPOSED RAMP ELEVATION

1/8"=1'-0"

11.30.22

Christ the King Catholic Church
200 Windsor Ave, Haddonfield, NJ 08033

PDK
ARCHITECTS
700 Collings Avenue
Collingswood, NJ 08107
856.833.1111
pdksmail@pdkarchitects.com
www.pdkarchitects.com

Projects

2. Morgan Hall

- Steps and halls from hall to newly renovated bathrooms renovated

Schedule	Funding Source
This summer	Operating budget

Projects

3. Adoration Chapel renovated

- Repainting
- Recarpeting
- New light fixtures
- Some new furniture

Schedule	Funding Source
Completion by June 1	First, restricted gifts; remaining balance, operating budget

Projects

4. Rosary devotional space

- Formerly the SVdP closet
- Statue of Our Lady of the Rosary
- Icon of the mysteries of the Rosary

Schedule	Funding Source
Completion by June 1	Operating budget

How can I help?

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- **Support the mission through prayer, time, and money**
- Use the parish online calendar for event feedback
- Use the parish website for emailing comments to Pastoral Council
- Join a committee of the Pastoral Council
 - Liturgy
 - Faith Formation
 - Social Justice