

## ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH – LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA



### OUR PARISH

St. Patrick Church first saw life as a Catholic community of faith as a mission of St. Genevieve Church in 1945. Msgr. William J. Teurlings was instrumental in the founding of the chapel. The parish's early beginnings were greatly assisted by a grant from the Catholic Extension society of \$10,000. In requesting the grant, Bishop Jules Jeanmard asked that the Society assist in removing the shame of the Diocese of Lafayette being the only diocese in the country (at that time) without a church dedicated to the favorite patron saint of the Irish. His request was granted. In 1952, St. Patrick was established as a parish, and in 2002, the Church celebrated its fiftieth anniversary.

### OUR PARISH TODAY

A comment from a recent visitor to our church was, "I've never been in this Church before, and I love it!" This reaction is not rare, and leads to St. Patrick being a favored location for people from around Lafayette for smaller gatherings, for weddings and other celebrations. The warmth of the worship space and its 'coziness' are part of what makes worshipping at St. Patrick such a truly spiritual experience.

The warmth and welcoming nature of the building is only complemented and enhanced by the warmth and friendliness of the people who worship here. Their deep and abiding care for each other results in a spirit of hospitality that is extended to all who visit. This spirit flows, of course, from a deep and abiding faith. Many of our parishioners live in other parts of Lafayette, and in surrounding communities, having chosen to make St. Patrick their spiritual home. Together, we strive to be a place where the real presence of Christ is experienced and celebrated.

### OUR PLAN

The **Centennial Campaign: Building our Future Together** offers our parish an opportunity to both care for those who have served us in the past, and to provide for the ministerial needs of the future, as well as to reach out the poor. There we are inviting our people to make a pledge to advance these goals, spread out over 5 years. Our parish goal is to raise \$235,000 over that 5 year time period, with 30% (\$70,000) returning to the parish. In addition, 50% of every dollar raised above our goal will be returned to the parish.

### OUR SHARE OF FUNDS

We will use our share of the funds towards:

Additional space for Parking

The lot we own to the south of the Church sits unused at present. It's size and unusual shape make many other uses less than feasible. Transforming that area into parking, with adequate green space and plantings, will improve our area, and make it easier for us to gather as a worshipping community.

With Christ within us, before us, and beside us, we go forward to meet the challenges of the future, rooted in the rich traditions of our Catholic faith.



**OUR MINIMUM NEED: \$235,000**

**OUR INITIAL REBATE: \$70,000**