

# Planning for Our Future: Debt Reduction

**October 3, 2018** will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the dedication of our beautiful church building. The last twenty-four years have taken their toll on our church carpet and our pews. Soon it will be necessary to install new carpeting and refurbish the pews in our church. But first, we must retire the debt on our roof and parking lot.

In consultation with our finance council and our parish council, we have an ambitious plan in this regard. Our goal is to go well beyond our regular monthly loan payments in two ways. We hope to send \$50,000 from our Christmas collections as interest-free principal payments. And we hope to do the same with the Easter collections.

If we are successful in this exciting endeavor, we will be able to retire our debt in four years. Then we can move on to the joyful task of installing a new carpet and refurbishing our pews to make our place of worship look brand new. So, here are a few suggestions to help you participate in this daunting challenge for the future of our parish.

**First**, does your employer provide matching grants for your special donations? It never hurts to ask.

**Next**, if you are required to make withdrawals from your retirement account, did you know that you may be able to get a charitable deduction and avoid some taxes in the process? This is worth discussing with your tax advisor.

**Finally**, have you included your parish in your estate planning? Please do so! Thanks for considering this!

Please know that I prayerfully remember you, not only in my daily and weekend Masses, but also in my daily recitation of the Divine Office and Rosary. Thank you again for your kindness. Together, we are looking upward in faith, moving forward in hope, and leading onward in love, to new life in Christ! - Fr. Dvorscak