

GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME!

The long-awaited reopening of our beloved St Michael's Church and the new Parish Center is here.

Buildings & Facilities Committee

We are indebted to the members who have been faithfully and quietly working feverishly behind the scenes beginning all the way from January 2017. In the past 2 years, this committee has been meeting practically every week and is responsible for the successful completion of our rebuilding projects at St Michael's Church and St Timothy's Chapel: Sandy Arena, Mary Rolla, Sue Stone, John Schmeltzer III, Ryan Salvatore (Architect), Neil Hauck (Architect), Becca Nell (Owner's Representative), Kate Scavo (Owner's Representative), Max Wernert (General Contractor).

The Committee's work focused on: (a) meeting certain immediate physical needs to ensure that the buildings are not compromised in any structural or operational manner; and (b) leveraging the need to address building deficiencies to enrich the environment in which we worship.

These are some of the work completed at St Michael's

1. Re-organized entry drive and parking lot so that, together with the School, Rectory and Parish Office, the property feels like a campus, with the Church at its core;
2. Relocated and restored existing memorials, monuments, and intimate landscaped areas on the property;
3. Removed the pre-existing, imposing entry porte-cochere and constructed a new glass-enclosed entry along the South wall of the existing building;
4. Refurbished the Narthex, Nave and Sanctuary and refreshed materials and finishes, and created a brighter and more appealing environment for worship;
5. Expanded Guinan Hall, Family room, and conference rooms, and introduced natural light via windows into those spaces (work in these areas are expected to be completed February 28);
6. Replaced lighting, sound system and organ which had long exceeded its useful life;
7. Ordered new ergonomic pews and constructed 2 new ADA-complaint restrooms in the church narthex;
8. Replaced the HVAC system, exterior trim and siding, and various other existing building systems and assemblies that had exceeded their useful life;
9. Still to come – a new tabernacle, the newly mounted crucifix, devotion candles, ambo, baptismal font;
10. For your information, the church and Guinan Hall, when not under social restrictions, can now accommodate 495 people (400 seated in pews) and 348 people respectively;
11. For those concerned about the air quality in the Church, we have a new mechanical system:
 - The new mechanical systems are a Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) system. This system is more energy efficient than the previous system. The VRF systems are considered one of the most energy efficient AC systems available on the market currently.
 - The new mechanical system is set up to provide an "economizer" mode, which will allow for maximum outside air to be delivered to the space during the shoulder months (spring & fall). The previous system did not have this.
 - There are three (3) new dedicated outdoor air fans that are interlocked with the new mechanical systems that will help to increase the amount of outside air to the space.
 - The new mechanical systems will have new MERV 13 filters installed on each AC unit serving the space. This will help to improve the indoor air quality in the space.

- The new mechanical system has a total of 14 zones. This will allow for more flexibility with heating and cooling throughout the building.
- New fintube electric trench radiators have been installed at the entrances to avoid cooling loss when the doors are open to increase efficiency of the new mechanical systems.

The Committee's work extended to St. Timothy's Chapel, as well, where significant enhancements were made, intended to ensure easy access and to restore some charm to the property.

1. Reconstructed the entry to provide ADA-compliant access;
2. General renovation of site landscaping, including introduction of additional planting beds and repaving of the parking lot;
3. Constructed a new ADA-compliant restroom in the chapel narthex;
4. Refurbished interior finishes, including new paint, lighting, and flooring.

Capital Campaign Executive Committee

This committee was formed in March 2018 and we are also indebted to its members who were instrumental in raising the funds to proceed with the rebuilding project: John & Patricia Dudzik, Ed & Maryellen & Feeley, Jill Gussis, The late Carol James, Fr Richard Murphy, Louis & Catherine Paglia, Doyle & Bridget Queally, Barbara Ripp, John Schmeltzer III, Andy & Heliane Sieg, Sue & Bob Stone, Anna Thoennes, Alejandro Ventosa & Cristina Lazaro

Parish Trustee

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the late Carol James for having served our parish so faithfully as the Parish Trustee and thus serving on numerous committees including the Parish Finance Committee and Parish Pastoral Council.

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Sue Stone as our new Parish trustee, to work alongside our longtime Parish trustee, John Schmeltzer III. Every parish has to operate in the secular world through a corporate structure and thus each parish is organized as a parish corporation. By virtue of our offices, the bishop, vicar general, and I (as the pastor) are members. The trustees are appointed lay members of the parish and are members and officers of the corporation as well. As a pastor, there are many challenges that I face in running the parish. Financial challenges are obviously among them, but I face a variety of challenges in operating a viable parish. A Parish Trustee plays a significant role in assisting me in meeting those challenges, watching over the finances of the parish and making sure the corporation is doing right for the overall parish.

Sue Stone grew up on Long Island and in New York City. She attended Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts and graduated cum-laude with a BA in International Relations.

Sue worked for the United Nations Environment Program and was then recruited to work for IBM in New York City. She worked for IBM from 1977 to 1993. Early on, she held various sales and management positions. In 1988, she became the Senior Sales Executive for Long Island, responsible for sales and services revenue growth. In 1990, she took the position of Director of Marketing & Sales and Chief Operating Officer for IBM North Eastern Region located in New York City. In April of 1993, after having her second son, she decided to leave IBM and stay home with her family.

In 1994, Sue began her involvement at Greenwich Catholic School in Greenwich CT, where her children attended grammar school. She became the Chairman of the Development Committee and then a member of the Board of Education for the school. Sue later became Chairman of the Board in 1999, serving 3

consecutive terms and retiring from that position in 2007. During her time at Greenwich Catholic School, she worked closely with the administration, teachers and clergy on budgets, financial and fund-raising strategies, operations, as well as strategic planning and the accreditation process.

From 2009 to 2013 Sue was the Business Manager for Indian Harbor, LLC, a private placement firm focused on the hedge fund and private equity industry.

Sue served on the Board of Governors of Fairfield College Preparatory School and as a member and former Chairman of The Parent Leadership Council at Fordham University. She was more recently a member of the Strategic Planning Commission for the Diocese of Bridgeport and is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of Foundations in Faith. She is also a practicing Spiritual Director associated with the Murphy Center for Ignatian Spirituality at Fairfield University.

Sue lives in New Canaan with her husband Bob. She is a long-time member of St. Michael Parish in Greenwich and involved in various ministries.

Welcome on board, Sue. Thank you for saying YES!

Finally, we will invite Bishop Frank Caggiano to reconsecrate St Michael's Church and St Timothy's Chapel and have a big parish celebration when the Covid-19 restrictions ease up.