

FATHER ANDY ANNOUNCEMENT AT MASSES - DEC 16-17, 2017

Good evening (morning, afternoon).

Going Home

I want to provide another update regarding our Going Home initiative. Although we held town hall meetings last month, **things are moving quickly**. So I want to communicate additional information.

Five years ago this month, I first presented my vision for the parish on right-sizing the parish so that our resources can be used for what we are truly about: the proclamation of the Gospel. **It is finally happening!**

- We as a parish went to the **BH planning board two weeks ago and received approval** for our site plan and the work to be done at our new Parish Center which will be the former town library.
- We have also accelerated our closing date with the town.
We will close the transaction and deal this Thursday, Dec 21st.
Much work went into accelerating this date. Work continues to meet this date, but we are confident it will happen this week.
Closing the transaction on Thursday means this:
 - The town will own the upper property that contains the rectory, the school and the auditorium;
 - the parish will no longer be under a deed restriction that we have lived with since the early 1960s.
 - We will be renting the school and auditorium from the town;
 - The town library will be next door in our former rectory building;
 - We will own the former library building on Plainfield Ave.
 - and, we will receive a check for \$2.845M from the township
- We are working on contracts as we speak so that the **Parish Center work will begin just before, or after, the New Year.**

Fr Matthew, Monsignor and I have moved out of the rectory. We will remain at three nearby rectories until we have launched the work with the Parish Center and have a few months of project work completed. We will then look at a future plan for a priest residence. As always, we are a phone call away in the case of an emergency.

So, we are well on our way to GOING HOME to our new Parish Center and, ultimately, our newly renovated and expanded church.

Thank you, you who have been SO generous with your time, talent and treasure to make this vision a reality. This process continues to need your prayerful support.

We are receiving calls from parishioners wanting to make year end contributions. Carolee, my assistant, is ready and willing to accept any and all contributions by check, credit card, online recurring payment or a variety of other means.

Please call Carolee at the parish center if you'd like to pledge or make a contribution to Going Home.

IT'S REAL. IT'S HERE. IT'S HAPPENING! And I STILL NEED YOUR HELP to completely meet our monetary goal. **We especially need your prayers.**

Congratulations on this big moment in our lives! Thank you for your time. God bless us as we move ahead toward Christmas Day.