

## **REPAIRING GOD'S HOUSE TEAM NEWS 2017**

### **From the Desk of "Bobby the Builder":**

There has been a lot of activity being carried out by your Repairing God's House Team. We thought we would like to share some of that information – some of it good and some the need for more work. Let me start out with some heartwarming information that moved members of the team:

Your Repair God's Church Team has been at it now for 7 months. It has been a busy time both in planning events and praying for "generous and caring Hearts" to prevail. While as busy it has been over the period it also has stirred emotions. We have seen such acts of kindness from visitors to our parish and feel that their stories are worth sharing with you - from visitors to IOP; "While visiting our grandson in the Marine Corps we went to Sunday Mass at IOP. We saw that God's House was in need of repairs. Please accept this donation to help repair God's House" - \$1,000.

Another visitor from Cary visited us one Sunday morning while we were raffling off the Roomba Vacuum and asked "if he could buy all the raffle tickets she had – a friend told him to stop by and visit IOP if he were in Jacksonville". \$5,000

An old IOP parishioner came to Jacksonville in November to attend an RCIA induction ceremony for a friend. "I was saddened to see the condition of the Church. Please accept the enclosed check to help your "Repairing God's House". \$200.00

A previous parishioner dropped by and donated money "given that IOP had done so much for her in the past". \$13,000

God brought these generous people to our doors at our time of need. Our RGH team prayer remains that more will join us on the Journey..

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### **From the Desk of the RGH "Financial Team":**

The team has occasionally informed our Parishioners via the Bulletin about the financial situation of the team efforts to date. A bystander might say that you are doing well for only being at the Campaign for seven months. The team acknowledges that we have done well but believes that we can do much better if we continue to pray for "Caring and Generous Hearts". We continue to provide you information as available via the use of "Thermometers" in each church entrance way. So we feel it worthwhile sharing in writing where we stand during the closing month of December 2017.

Let us first say that we welcome all donations no matter how small. We have seen donations from \$1.00 to \$144,000 pledged or given as our right gifts. We have seen the continuous use of our "Change for Change" Coke Bottles at each entrance and our display at our Thrift Shop. To date your change has amounted to over \$1,700. If you recall during my May announcements and those words captured via the RGH Bulletin / Pledge cards; that if we could have received a commitment from families /individuals for \$1,000 over a three year period we would reach our goal of \$1.3M". We still believe that it is achievable. Here are a few statistics:

- There are a total of 365 individuals / families on the Team Journey. That equals a participation rate of 11.5%.
- That \$830,000 has been pledged or donated outright

- That to date we have cash in hand of \$325,000. With that money we have been able to keep up with payments to the beam repair contractor and pay for mailings to parishioners, RGH printed materials. Our next mailing to those not yet on the Journey will be going out early next year 2018

- We have not taken out any loans as yet. Praise God! We do not need to be saddled with debt if humanly possible.

- Pledging seems to have plateaued – would those remaining cautious please reconsider joining us? Please?

Group Giving: It is a pleasure to joyfully draw your attention towards the various groups with the parish community that have made pledges and have donated proceeds from various events in 2017 towards Repairing God's House. In no particular order:

- Infant of Prague Catholic School: The school team hosted a Kentucky Derby Gala and donated \$8,500.

- The 50+ Group have hosted two fund raising events and donated \$7,916

- The Catholic Daughters of America made a three year pledge of \$3,600 and will be presenting RGH with a \$10,000 donation from their Mystery Theater event held in Nov.

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- The Knights of Columbus have made a three year pledge of \$5,000 and the Columbus Club will be donating 75% of the proceeds from their May-Oct the Sale of Script Cards.

- The Repairing God's Church team hosted an Affordable, Silent Art Auction and raised \$6,485 "Mary's Grotto" raffle for \$681.00.

The RGH team appreciates all the hard work of parish groups and most of all, YOU the Parishioners who have supported us on the Journey, Please continue to support the team's endeavors. After all, where would we be without our Infant of Prague Home?

For questions please contact Bob Wilman at [bobwilman.iop@gmail.com](mailto:bobwilman.iop@gmail.com)  
Team RGH.