

LEGACY FOR OUR MISSION:

For Our Children and the Future

CAMPAIGN EFFORT HELPS PARISH BUILD FUTURE FOUNDATION

For some people, such as Indianapolis resident Mark Hudson, giving back to one's parish is a common part of their daily life. That's why the longtime Irvington resident and Our Lady of Lourdes parishioner immediately responded to the call when his pastor asked him for assistance.

Father Nick Dant, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes since 2002, invited Hudson to chair the parish's *Legacy for Our Mission* capital stewardship campaign, which began its planning activities in early 2006. Hudson helped lead the effort to prepare the community for the parish campaign.

The work has paid off, with the parish surpassing the campaign goal established by the archdiocese, Hudson said. As an initiative that will help the parish serve people well into the future, the results of the *Legacy for Our Mission* campaign are already assisting parishioners in a variety of ways. Available funds are helping pay for needed improvements in the parish kitchen, which called for new food preparation and storage equipment for events held at the church as well as serving students at the preschool through eighth-grade parish school.

Upgrades for the kitchen are just one way the parish is addressing deferred maintenance needs throughout its facilities. Parishioners also have planned a series of other projects, including:



- interior and exterior restoration work for Our Lady of Lourdes Church
- exterior fixes for the parish office
- repair work for the exterior of Our Lady of Lourdes School and Lyons Hall
- installation of a school video monitoring system
- restoration of a stone grotto
- repairs to the church organ
- various other maintenance projects.

"We were able to easily identify the areas of need," Hudson said. "The improvement areas were just obvious. People decided the changes were necessary because everyone wants to be able to call this place their parish community for many years to come."

Our Lady of Lourdes has served Catholics on the east side of Indianapolis since its founding in 1909. Nearly 100 years later, Father Dant believes the parish joined together in the campaign with a remarkable spirit of cooperation and stewardship.

"It's that concept of sharing and returning one's gifts to God—the very teaching of stewardship as a way of life—that has energized our ministries and parish life," Father Dant added. "It's been a very positive experience for the parish. I've been impressed with the efforts. I know I'll continue to be moved by the generosity of our parish as we serve our community as well as others throughout the archdiocese."

Legacy for Our Mission, the archdiocesan capital campaign, is guided by the principles of Christian stewardship and addresses future ministry needs of the archdiocese. By contributing to Legacy for Our Mission, you are helping your parish address its most urgent capital, operating and ministry needs as well as the shared ministries and home missions of the archdiocesan community.

Please visit the new online home of the Legacy for Our Mission campaign at www.archindy.org/legacy. It can also be accessed at www.LegacyforOurMission.org.