



IMMACULATE HEART^{OF} MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

MAY 21, 2017

Dear friends in the Risen Lord,

Father Javier and I have now completed our second week in the small apartments to which we moved when we vacated the rental house in Sagamore Hills. As I have explained on several occasions, the parish spent nearly \$350,000 on rent at that house over nine years, and I was determined since my arrival at IHM to end that lease and move toward the construction of a permanent rectory for the parish.

More than a year ago, the Archdiocese obtained property on our behalf directly across Briarcliff Road from the church. I am profoundly grateful to the family—longtime IHM parishioners—who made that available to us at very reasonable cost.

I am frequently asked at the church doors when construction will begin. The short answer is: when we can pay for it! Our business manager and finance council estimate that we will be able to proceed with construction of a rectory and pay for it out of operating funds (without the need for a capital campaign) when our monthly offertory increases by about \$9,000 a month (\$2,000 a week).

Father Javier and I are willing to make this sacrifice, knowing that everyone in the parish is also sacrificing to ensure that the present arrangement is only temporary. I certainly hope that we will reach the necessary offertory threshold by the end of 2017 so that we can begin construction early in 2018. That, of course, is entirely in your hands.

Your brother in Christ's word and work,