

Our Lady of the Lake Church
Our Lady of the Lake Regional Catholic School
1037 West Houghton Lake Drive ~ PO Box 800
Prudenville, MI 48651



December 8, 2021

"Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God." 2 Corinthians 15

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of the Lake Parish,

We are faced with an urgent challenge to replace and repair areas of our Church and School that are in need of great attention. Whether you are a parishioner, parent of a student, visitor, or a concerned citizen, we call upon you at this time of needed discernment for prayers and financial support.

The Church and School building in its entirety has been deteriorating over the years, as poor roof replacement and an aging structure have resulted in leaks throughout the buildings. As with residential homes, Our Parish Home has similar restorative requirements. In 2011, the Parish contracted a company that carried out the installation of a new flat roof system, which included an extended warranty. If properly installed, roofs of this type should last minimally 20-30 years. Unfortunately, poor workmanship and installation that did not follow proper roofing system specifications are the cause of serious damages. The roofing contractor has been contacted but will not honor the warranty.

We have contacted several roofing contractors and representatives who specialize in these types of roof systems and they have inspected and evaluated the condition of our roofs, as well as given advice on how to proceed. Information from the diocesan lawyer is that legal action against the roofing company is not viable, as the cost of obtaining an inspection official and the litigation costs may outweigh any award that could be rendered against the company. There are issues with the statute of limitations which has run out in most cases, and we were informed that collection may be difficult even if a judgement is attained. An estimated cost to replace our flat roof system is \$300,000, and it does not include costs for potential underlying structural repairs. We also looked into the possibility of replacing it with trusses and a shingled roof; according to one of the roofers, the estimated cost will be about four times the price of the flat roof replacement. Currently, we are taking a course of action to repair leaks as they occur until we have the finances to replace the roof in its entirety.

Another area of urgent need is the structural aging which has resulted in another cause of leakage throughout our Parish buildings. National Restoration Company was contacted to evaluate our buildings and make recommendations. The biggest area of deterioration is in the caulking, bricks, and mortar which have affected areas inside, including leaks in ceilings, floods in the basement, wet carpeting, and leaky window sills. An estimated cost to repair the deterioration of structural wear and the damages caused by leakages is an additional \$250,000.

All of this has been overwhelming and after much research and with prayerful consideration, we feel it best to expedite a financial means to rebuild our Church and School back to its solid foundation.

We ask for your prayers and financial support. Donations to "Rebuild Our Parish Home" will be accepted by cash, check, or online giving. Any donation will be graciously appreciated through a one-time payment or through a monthly payment plan. All donations are tax-deductible. Please complete the donation pledge form enclosed with this letter, and return it in the offertory basket, at the church office, or by U.S. Mail. Your prompt response will assist us in efficient planning, and please know that your prayers and donations will be accepted throughout the restoration.

Have a wonderful Advent and Christmas Season and God Bless,

Fr. Peter Eke
Pastor

Dr. David Hock
Parish Council Chairperson

Dawn M. LaCasse
Finance Council Chairperson