

Dear Sacred Heart Family,

June 6, 2019

As we head into summer, the outward beauty of the Golden Heart City begins to blossom. Summer showers help our flowers to grow and everything else as well. I am thankful to the many hands that plant and tend to the flowers around our cathedral. The vibrant colors of the many flowers always provide for a warm welcome to our many summer time visitors.

With construction beginning on our chair lift project, daily access to the church will require a little adjustment to the routine of where we park. Those most affected will be our daily Mass goers. From Monday to Saturday, we offer Mass at 7:30 AM and I have asked those who come to use the entrance closest to the traffic lights on Airport Way. Hopefully, the main entry will remain open on most of the weekends between now and the end of summer. By 30 August we hope to have the new chair lift operational with two new handicap parking spaces close to the main entrance.

As work proceeds during the summer, the steps to the basement and to the choir loft will be rebuilt. When this happens, access to the basement will be from the set of steps behind the altar (on the Airport Way side of the church). We hope that the majority of the work will happen during the week so that weekend walking patterns are as normal as possible.

Since announcing the financial need to fully fund the project, we have had some large donations roll in. I wish to thank the many hearts and hands behind the Hospitality Committee for donating the entire proceeds of this year's Ladies Tea to the cause as well as the majority of proceeds from the prior year as well. And thank you to others who have made contributions large and small.

We are still trying to raise an additional \$55,677 to fully fund the construction with the hopes that we have enough left over to also improve the lighting in the church as well. For your convenience, we have enclosed envelopes for our Chair Lift Building Project in the pews toward the center aisle. Please use the envelopes to help out as you can. Not everyone can donate a large sum, but everyone can donate something. Please be generous and help us to help each other.

As I watch our seniors come and go each week, I am reminded that time slows us all down. Today we may help in the funding of the chair lift project. Tomorrow we may benefit from the lift. But it is not only our revered elders who will benefit. With sadness, I am reminded of one young man in a wheel chair who had to crawl up the steps from the basement when our older (and less accessible) chair lift was inoperable. Those who use wheel chairs, walkers, crutches and canes can all navigate more easily with the aid of a lift that can take us up to the level of the church or down to the level of the basement.

Thank you for your prayers and your continuing support of our parish and our chair lift project!

Peace,  
Fr Ross

*Pray for us, too, that God may open a door to us for the word, to speak of the mystery of Christ (Col 4:3)*