

# The Living Stones Project Newsletter

Holy Innocents Parish

## *Project Milestones!*

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We're pleased to announce that we've begun receiving our first set of gift intention cards for *The Living Stones Project*. These early pledges already total over \$413,000, and indicate a phenomenal start to our project! Individually, the contributions vary greatly in size – but regardless of the amount, each gift represents a generous sacrifice and commitment to the future of our Parish. Combined, these gifts bless us all. We're very grateful, and we thank each of our parish families who contributed to *The Living Stones Project* so far. Imagine

what we can do if more families participate?! Because the Project timeline is condensed, we expect we'll be receiving the majority of your gifts over the next few weeks, and we look forward to your support with anticipation, gratefulness and confidence.

As a celebration of the act of participation, we have posted the names of those who have returned their pledge cards—whether they've made a financial gift or not—on the stones around the inside of our Sanctuary. This visual display also reminds us that the Church is not comprised merely of brick and mortar, but is

alive with you, our "living stones." So if you've attended a presentation but haven't returned your gift intention card yet, please do so as soon as you've made your decision about supporting this Project.

If you haven't yet attended a presentation, please make it a priority to come downstairs after either Mass on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Child care will be provided, and so will refreshments – it will be a relaxing, informative hour. We will mail packets to anyone who does not attend, but we'd much rather speak to you in person, so please be sure to join us then. Thank you in advance.



**"But you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."**

**1 Peter 2:5**

## Matching Gift Funds

We're thrilled that many of our parishioners are employed by companies that will match their gifts to Holy Innocents *Living Stones Project*. In fact, \$144,000 of our \$413,000 pledges received so far comes through companies' matching plans. That means over 34% of our gift

total has been received through matching funds! Some of the companies who match funds include Microsoft, Altria, Group Health Cooperative and others.

Some of you might be wondering if there are restrictions on matching funds when a church is the recipient. The answer is yes. However, because Holy Innocents' building fund pays for the housing of our Food Pantry and Clothes Closet, which have a non-

denominational, community outreach, most companies allow the match. We benefit, and so does our community! If you have any questions about whether your company will match your gifts toward *The Living Stones Project*, please inquire with your HR office. Setting up a matching fund is usually a simple process that has a powerful effect on our building and our Parish.