

THE EAGLE

PUBLISHED BY
THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT



SPECIAL
ISSUE

**The
Rectory
Reborn**



A VIEW OF THE HISTORIC 1851 RECTORY, WITH THE NEW PARISH CLOISTER AND THE FORTHCOMING BUILDING ON THE EXISTING PARKING LOT IN THE BACKGROUND. OUR RECTORY IS NOT MERELY A RESIDENCE FOR OUR PRIESTS, BUT ALSO A CENTER FOR PARISH LIFE.

THE NEW CLOISTER WILL COMPLETE THE BASILICA CAMPUS AND SERVE AS A DESTINATION FOR BOTH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND PILGRIMS, A GATEWAY TO EVANGELIZATION, AND A BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENT FOR PARISH GATHERINGS AND DEVOTIONS.



MSGR. DIGIOVANNI HAS DESIGNATED ONE AREA OF THE CLOISTER FOR PRIVATE PRAYER, IN SPECIAL REMEMBRANCE OF THE UNBORN, AND OF WOMEN WHO HAVE LOST CHILDREN THROUGH MISCARRIAGE.

A new vision for the Rectory and Basilica campus

Over the past 20 years, St. John's has been on an extraordinary course of renewal and restoration. Through the generosity of many parishioners, our parish has nearly tripled in size, and our once neglected church has been restored to its grandeur, now standing as the only Basilica in the Diocese of Bridgeport. Most importantly, our parish has come to be characterized by a Catholic culture that inspires us to worship, to learn, and to serve.

As we prepare for the next 20 years and beyond, I invite you to join me in advancing the Catholic culture at St. John's and throughout the Diocese of Bridgeport through the *We Stand With Christ* capital campaign. This campaign represents a combined effort to advance St. John's projects (including the Rectory, a new Parish Cloister, and a Sustainability Fund), and to support the broader Catholic Church of Fairfield County.

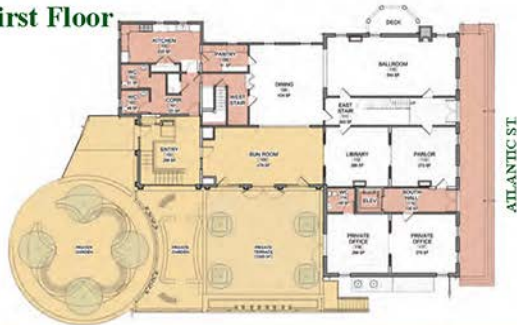
This special edition of THE EAGLE offers a taste of the beautiful transformation of our historic Rectory and Basilica campus, including the new Parish Cloister, which will be a wonderful space for parish devotions and gatherings. Floor plans of the Rectory are shown at right; the reimagined building will be able to accommodate five priests. In addition to replacing the siding and all of the windows, upgrading the plumbing and HVAC systems, and adding insulation (we have none now!), the renovation will include space for parish meetings, religious education classes, and large gatherings. Most importantly, all of the improvements will preserve the integrity of the 1851 building, the oldest in Stamford.

More details on our *We Stand With Christ* capital campaign will follow in the mail, including ways for you to participate in this vital effort for our Basilica and the wider Church in Fairfield County.

Please accept my heartfelt appreciation for your continued prayers during my recovery. Know that I am remembering all of you as well, daily. God bless you.

—Msgr. Stephen M. DiGiovanni

First Floor



NEW CONSTRUCTION
RENOVATED AREA



Second Floor



Third Floor

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