

A Message from Rev. Vincent R. Juan, Pastor

My Dear Friends and Fellow Parishioners:

From our humble beginnings nearly 150 years ago, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish has always welcomed immigrants and travelers from around the world. Our parish was established on a vision that Catholics of the Sierras would grow as a people made one with the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. Yet, even with the dedication of our new parish home in 2011, **there is room for further growth – literally, figuratively and spiritually.**



Imagine for a moment: where every single chair is filled, every single week at every single Mass; where our Faith Community is moved to new heights of closeness with our Lord; where we prepare our youth to become Catholic leaders of tomorrow; and, where we redouble our efforts to help those less fortunate. Imagine that day when our debt is paid off to allow for future development of our parish; or, doing more good works of the Greater Church.

Our Mission and the fabric of Assumption Parish is a testament to our community's willingness to look beyond our past and present to embrace the future. Through generosity and dedication of past, present, permanent and seasonal parishioners our purpose as a Faith Community is clear: to help people grow in their walk with Christ; true love for the Eucharist; and, be a vibrant Church for generations to come.

And, what about tomorrow? Can we nurture a youth ministry program, hold a St. Patrick's Day dinner or other communal gatherings? The sad answer is no. We lack sufficient space to accommodate a multitude of life enhancing activities. For Assumption Parish to grow and flourish, we must keep pace with a yearning for sacramental life, spiritual growth, hospitality, education, fellowship and outreach.

Our Mission, Our Future ...Our Legacy Campaign will address these challenges by funding four important initiatives: retirement of our parish debt; participation in the diocesan **ONE CAMPAIGN**; undertake modest improvements to our Mission Church; and, establish a seed fund for future parish development. To realize our vision, our campaign seeks to raise a minimum of \$1.0 million in gifts and pledges over the next few months.

Achieving our goal requires the total support of all who have made Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary their parish home. We plan to engage the entire parish in our outreach efforts, in a participative and communal effort that will build and strengthen each of us. I am deeply grateful for your past exemplary generosity and hope you will demonstrate similar sacrifice, by joining me in support of **Our Mission, Our Future ...Our Legacy Campaign**.

As members of our extended parish family, I am hopeful you will consider joining me in the fulfillment of our vision by pledging your support to **Our Mission, Our Future ...Our Legacy Campaign**. Your generosity, sacrifice and determination can provide a legacy of good stewardship for those who will follow us.

Please keep our efforts in your prayers. I assure you I will hold all you in my prayers every day that you will share abundantly in God's blessings and spread them to others.

Faithfully in Christ,

Rev. Vincent R. Juan, JCL

Pastor