

GROWING DISCIPLES THROUGH THE PARISH LIFE CENTER



Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish has grown to more than 2,500 families and 8,782 members, and it continues to flourish as a vibrant, welcoming parish family. The Parish Life Center (PLC) will be a vital component to the activities, ministries and services of our parish.

“I look forward with great joy to the completion of this living dream which began in 2000 when we were founded. With God’s grace, our Blessed Mother’s intercession and our parishioner’s cooperation, we will soon see this vision become a living reality,” says Monsignor Gentili. “The PLC along with the adjoining courtyard will strengthen our commitment to being a welcoming parish family, growing disciples and making Church matter.”

An integral part of the original parish plan, the PLC will bring a new level of community to Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. “With everything centered on the same campus it will be much easier for our ministries to meet, perform community service and host events. It addresses the immediate and future needs of our growing parish,” says Ed Zapisek, parish business manager.

WHEN WILL THE PLC BE COMPLETED?

The PLC is expected to be completed in the late spring of 2017. An Open House will be planned for summer or early fall for parishioners and community members to tour and celebrate this exciting addition to the parish property.

HOW WILL THE PLC AFFECT OUR PARISH MINISTRIES?

Currently, our parish ministry members and volunteers have been meeting wherever they can find space. Meetings are held in the present Parish Office, the Saint Juan Diego Chapel, the OLG Church Narthex and the Church as well as many off-campus sites. With the PLC and its conference rooms, the parish staff will be able to more easily accommodate requests for meetings and ministry events.

TELL ME ABOUT THE PARISH SOCIAL HALL?

Located on the first floor of the PLC, the Parish Social Hall will be the center of activity for many parish events. The Parish Ministry Fairs, socials after Mass and other celebrations will be held here. This social/banquet hall has large windows and opens to the courtyard between the church and the PLC.

The banquet hall seats approximately 130 for large events at round tables. Adjacent to the hall will be a cozy reception room with a fireplace. This area can be used for smaller gatherings, a cocktail reception before being seated in the banquet room or as additional space for events in the banquet room. A commercial-grade kitchen is also located on the first floor that will be used by parish ministries and volunteers as well as caterers for private and community events held at the PLC. This social hall will also be available to rent for baptisms, weddings, funerals, anniversary parties and more.

WHAT IS ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE PLC?

The second floor of the PLC houses the parish staff offices, several conference rooms, a staff kitchen, a large meeting room with state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment, a youth ministry meeting area, storage space and bathrooms.

WILL THE COMMUNITY BE ABLE TO USE THE PLC?

Although parish events will be the first priority, the PLC is open for community members to use meeting space. In addition, the large banquet hall will be available for rental to all members of the community.

IS THE NEW BUILDING SECURE?

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia recommended a security system with cameras and several other features to assure the safety of the parish staff and parishioners.

HOW WILL ADULT FAITH FORMATION UTILIZE THIS SPACE?

“Being able to hold all of our educational seminars, prayer groups, bible studies and more, on one central campus is invaluable. It enables us to more easily plan events with speakers, the proper equipment and refreshments,” says Jessica Walters, director of Religious Education. Future plans include a Women’s Advent Breakfast, more bible and book studies, speakers, community events and gatherings for parishioners of all ages and group sizes.

HOW WILL THE PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP) USE THE PLC?

Although the weekly PREP classes will still be held at Cold Spring Elementary School, many PREP activities will be centered at the PLC. The First Holy Communion and Confirmation Retreats, PREP socials, movie nights, service projects and parent meetings will all be held at the PLC. Future plans include a possible weekly preschool group and Vacation Bible School. *(continued on next page)*

PARISH LIFE CENTER AT A GLANCE

- Approximately 2,500 active parish families
- 16 years since Parish was created
- 40 plus parish ministries
- 14,000 square feet
- 3 conference rooms
- 130-person banquet room
- 1 commercial-grade kitchen
- 80-person meeting room with audio/visual equipment

PARISH LIFE CENTER CONTINUED

WHAT ABOUT THE YOUTH MINISTRY?

OLG's Youth Ministry is very excited to have its own designated room in the PLC. Teens currently meet in the Church Narthex which means putting up and taking down tables, bringing in snacks and hauling in supplies each week.

"The Youth Ministry area will provide us with a place of our own, that will have its own identity that is truly for teens. Most importantly, however, it will offer a more intimate setting that allows teens to relax and feel comfortable and let our group discussions take on a new vitality," comments Lisa Kopertowski, director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. "All teens are invited to join the Youth Ministry now or check out our new space in the spring," adds Mrs. K.

The area will be filled with comfy couches, table tennis, pool table, big screen TV, gaming equipment and more. Other plans include gatherings for college students to run short bible study sessions or coffee hangouts.

CAN I STILL MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO THE PLC?

Contributions are still being accepted for the PLC. Contact the Parish Office.

