**Questions and Answers**

**Q: Why aren’t we building new? It costs about the same, doesn’t it?**

A: In April 2023, a planning committee of 21 people consisting of Fr. Edward, principal Mary Sowada, trustees, alumni, parents, and parishioners reached out to a contractor to look at the cost of a new building on a new site adjacent to Seven Dolors Catholic Church. The cost estimate was over $9.7 million.

We are so pleased that we expect to raise our minimum goal of $5.6 million. However, if we built new, it would still require a mortgage of over $4 million, which the school cannot afford.

One of the reasons that we decided to renovate the current building is that we can do it in multiple phases if necessary, so that we do not need a long-term mortgage.

Architects and engineers looked at the current building and told us it was solid. In fact, anything new we build would not last as long as the current building. Let’s say we did decide to build new; we would still need to raise millions of dollars to repair the existing building or tear it down. No one really wants to tear it down, and we can’t afford to build new and repair the current building (all while probably paying a huge mortgage.) That’s why the planning committee determined that restoring the current building was the wisest option.

**Q: What is the “initial payment”?**

A: Many people make a gift of 10% at the time of their pledge.

**Q: When should my pledge payments start?**

A: Most people start paying their pledges right away.

**Q: What is Announcement Weekend?**

A: That’s the weekend when the campaign will go public—September 28th and 29th. Please join us at Holy Family School’s Fall Festival on Saturday, September 28th 3-7PM!

**Q: What is Commitment Weekend?**

A: That’s the weekend when we will ask everyone who has not yet pledged to make a pledge. October 26th and 27th.

**Q: I’m interested in making a non-cash gift. What should I do?**

A: Please reach out to the campaign office and let us know what you’d like to do. You can also write that on your pledge card.

**Q: When will the work begin?**

A: We plan on starting next summer.