



ST. BERNARD CATHOLIC CHURCH

219 East Bridge Street - Breaux Bridge, LA 70517
(337) 332-2159

New Building Update

February 16, 2022

Dear St. Bernard Parishioners,

I am pleased to provide you with a significant update to our 175th Anniversary projects. As you know, we have been in conversation about purchasing the property across the street from the church for several months. Over the course of those months, there were times when it seemed the sale would not be possible. As parishioners asked me for updates, I told them to entrust it to Our Lady. If she wanted this to happen, it would. It wasn't until December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception that we got approval and I was able to officially commit to purchasing the property. Because the occupants deserved a fair amount of time to move their belongings, I recall thinking at that time that it would be nice to close on the property by the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

I'm happy to report that it was on that feast day, this past Friday, that the property is now in possession of St. Bernard Church. It was at Lourdes that Our Lady declared "I am the Immaculate Conception" to St. Bernadette. It is Our Lady of Lourdes who stands in our grotto overlooking that corner. No doubt she has a vision of how it can be used to further her Son's kingdom.

We owe a debt of gratitude in honor of Maria Immaculata for her guidance and protection during this time. My prayer is that in the immediate future, her spouse, St. Joseph the Worker, will assist us in the necessary renovations. I also pray that the use of this building will properly honor the Holy Family and serve local families to the glory of God and the honor of the Blessed Mother.

As you recall, I purchased a beautiful icon of Our Lady from Bethlehem with the intention of placing it in the foyer of the new property. Hopefully, we will be able to enshrine that icon in that building as it will be used for the work of the church in evangelizing and catechizing Catholics in our local community.

Permissions for the walkway to the Borel Center are in their final stages. We will begin bidding that project out fairly soon. Updates on the remaining projects will be forthcoming as we continue to gather information. Thank you for your patience and your support of these church improvements. I'm looking forward to celebrating their completion with you during this 175th Anniversary Year.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux, pray for us.

In Jesus and Mary,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Fr. Garrett McIntyre'.

Fr. Garrett McIntyre
Pastor of St. Bernard Catholic Church