

## **PRESERVING OUR FOUNDATION, SECURING OUR FUTURE**

**Every parishioner should be aware of the status of this critical fundraising effort.  
Weekly updates are published in the parish bulletin.  
To help keep school families informed, this is a reprint of the  
article from the October 18-19 bulletin.**

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### **Capital Campaign Put On Hold As U.S. Economy Fluctuates**

In view of the recent instability of the American economy, pledge solicitation for Our Lady of the Wayside's capital campaign is being suspended temporarily.

While it is hoped that parishioners who have made commitments will be able to fulfill them as pledged, Father Ed Fialkowski announced the temporary suspension in consultation with the capital campaign leadership team.

The campaign leadership team had planned to send a letter within the next few weeks to parish families that have not yet made a commitment and a parish-wide newsletter was scheduled for mid-November.

These communications with parishioners will be put "on hold" until the economy has stabilized and the holiday season has passed.

The "Preserving Our Foundation / Securing Our Future" campaign commitments have reached about 63% of the \$3 million goal, or slightly more than \$1.9 million. More than \$700,000 of that amount has been received.

"This is a suspension, not a conclusion", Father Fialkowski said. "The needs identified by the Parish Management Council are not going away and we are hoping that the economy and the commitment of our parishioners will allow us to meet the campaign goal as quickly as possible."

In his remarks to parishioners at weekend masses in late September, Father Fialkowski acknowledged that the slowing economy was having an impact on the campaign and members of the campaign leadership team have heard the same concern from members of various parish organizations.

The slowness in reaching the campaign goal seemed to be much more connected to the state of the American economy than lack of support for the projects on the campaign list.

Two of the major 2008 projects have been completed, or are underway. Replacement of the heating and air conditioning system in the Father Mackin Center, which houses the middle school, was completed in August, before the school year began.

And a second major project, replacing the roof on the church and rectory, is currently in progress. Completion of that project will be accompanied by replacement of air conditioning duct work on the church roof.

The status of other major projects, including replacement of windows in the two school buildings and replacement of the two major parking lots, will be determined as the campaign is able to resume and funds are available.

Parishioners who have made pledges already are asked to continue to make payments, if possible. Particularly since the roof-replacement project has begun, it is essential that the parish continues to generate the funds necessary to pay for it. The decision to replace the roofs before winter was based in part on the anticipation that pledges made will be fulfilled on the expected schedule.

There has been no serious slow-down in payments but the up and down nature of the economy and corresponding nervousness could create additional nervousness in the OLV business office.

The capital campaign website remains open and includes a complete description of the proposed capital projects. It can be found at:

**<http://olwparish.org/campaign/>**