



СРПСКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦРКВА
Св. Василија Острошког

ST. BASIL OF OSTROG
SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

27450 N. BRADLEY ROAD · LAKE FOREST, IL 60045
PHONE (847) 247-00-77 · FAX (847) 247-00-88 · WWW.STBASILCHURCH.ORG

Mission of Holy Orthodox Churches

To be faithful in fulfilling the commandment of Christ to “Go into all the world and make disciples of all Nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all [things that He has] commanded” so that all people may be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.

May 12, 2017

Dear Parishioner,

The St. Basil of Ostrog Parish Board of Trustees has assigned a committee the task of “planning for the future of St. Basil Church”. This committee is continuing its work to develop a capital improvement project. This study will provide helpful information to and about the St. Basil Church Community and facilities by planning and addressing the needs into future years of church life.

The St. Basil Trusteeship Board is now seeking your thoughts and insights on the enclosed survey topics regarding the future direction of St. Basil of Ostrog Church. The purpose of the expansion project is based on the data gathered over the past few years and information gathered from interviews. Part of this work and process was and is to discover and ascertain, possible support from the church community before proceeding to the next steps of planning for the future. Since the plan and committee are taking a fiscally conservative approach into the future, the results will be used to determine the ability to afford to move forward with additional parts and phases of this study and project over the next 3 years.

The Trusteeship Board has asked an independent consultant, Jerry Minetos, the Development Officer for the Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Office of Parish Development since the Serbian Orthodox Diocese currently does not provide this type of expertise. Mr. Minetos was charged with conducting this part of a study to determine what the potential capacity to move forward might be.

BACKGROUND MAIN POINTS

- The plans were developed by working with input from different subgroups at church (Sunday School, Kolo, Brotherhood, Folklore, Facilities) to understand their needs. This information was gathered over the past several years from various qualified professionals from St. Basil Church.
- The Trusteeship Board and this Committee are very committed to the most fiscally conservative approach possible that would address the parish, facilities, and property needs.
- St. Basil of Ostrog Church needs more functional, dedicated classrooms and spaces for additional educational offerings, now and into the future.
- The church currently can accommodate 300 people for combined sitting and standing for services, while the current hall seats only 126. One result is that people are turned away from major church feast days and even weekly events when they enter the hall and do not see enough places for their family to sit.
- The current St. Basil of Ostrog building was built 34 years ago. Major repairs to the roof, HVAC, electrical, the land topography and parking lot are needed. All repairs and improvements are on hold until the completion of this study.
- The data gathering and needs assessment over the past years led to the formation of a proposed plan that the Committee suggests in 3, “pay-as-you-go” phases, and when and if funds are available. Pledge commitments would need to be available before the start of each phase.
- The current \$ 700 K mortgage is scheduled to be paid in the next 4 years. at the current pay off rate.

For more information, please see the: Statement of Need, FAQs, and Diagram on our website. ([Links to 3 on our website](#))

All input to this survey will be in the strictest of confidence. Deepest gratitude in advance for responding by **Wednesday, May 24, 2017**.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Djuro Krosnjar

V. Rev. Djuro Krosnjar
Parish Priest

Michael Kosanovich

Michael Kosanovich
Trusteeship President

Sofia Obradovich Scalzitti

Sofia Obradovich Scalzitti
Fundraising Chairperson