

## **St. Colman and the Future**

**The future of St. Colman Parish, what will it be? Not in five or six years, not in ten or twelve, but in twenty-five or thirty years. When the children of today are having children of their own, and when their children and their children's children are the parishioners here, when ages pass and we generation is gone, what will this parish look like?**

**I don't know. Truly only the Lord could say. (Unfortunately, He won't spill the beans.) We cannot know now what the ups and downs of this parish will be in the years and decades to come. That does not mean we cannot help plan for them. While we can't say what God has in store, we, as a community, can make provision for the continuation our parish. We can ensure that St. Colman is here to spread the Gospel for years to come. And, we can provide a strong foundation that will allow St. Colman to thrive and flourish for our children, their children, and the generations to follow.**

**Our Catholic faith is so needed in the world today. Our Lord offers the redemption won by His Cross and the manifold graces which flow from that**

**one true sacrifice. Our Lord has founded His Church and given us the means to obtain those graces, by prayer, by good works, by fasting, and above all in the Sacraments. We, St. Colman Parish, are the living presence of the Christ's Holy Church here in Washington Court House and Fayette County. This is why it is so vital that St. Colman thrive in the future. Our children and children's children must have this faith and the graces of the Sacraments. Also, St. Colman must flourish because of the mission to spread that faith. We must draw everyone we can to the Catholic faith and the great graces and the salvation or faith offers us in Christ. To do all of these things we must have a firm foundation and if we can reduce or eliminate our concern over money, then we will be in a stronger position to bring the Catholic faith to our own parishioners and to our larger community.**

**Instead of merely raising money as needed, instead of waiting until there is a real need with facilities and maintenance, instead of trying to raise the capital if and when an expansion is needed, what if the funds were already there? Or at least, what if there were enough funds to get things off the**

**ground? What if we could provide for the future now? And what if we could do it for pennies on the dollar?**

**What would this need to look like? Will we need tens of thousands of dollars from each and every person? No. In fact, *at the low cost of a Netflix subscription, we could raise enough money that once the endowment was fully funded, it would eliminate our future need for offertory—forever.* If every registered family were to donate to the St. Colman Parish Endowment Fund an amount equivalent to the cost of a standard Netflix subscription yearly, and the parish were to save that money for the next thirty-three years, by the time we were done, we would have enough principle that we could cover the offertory of our parish each and every year. Moreover, our fund would still be growing, assuring the financial freedom and future of our parish community.**

**Like I said, we don't know exactly what is in store for our parish. No doubt there will be good times, but we can almost say with certainty that there will be hard times too. We can alleviate that burden from future generations.**

**Yeah, it is a big project. Yes, thirty-three years is a lot of years, but it's so much faster than what it would otherwise be. If we were just to save the money, without the interest from the endowment, it would take us over one hundred twenty-seven years to reach the same goal. With the St. Colman Parish Endowment, we are getting it done almost four times faster.**

**Though it's big, it is very do-able! We take the big and make it small little parts. Fourteen bucks a month—less than \$3.25 a week—gets it done. That's less than a quarter pounder or a fancy coffee per week. This could make all the difference to future generations of our parish and it is a true act of charity, serving the people of the parish and the Gospel. I know it's asking more money and that's not always easy, but this is worth every cent. And, just to show you that I really do believe that this will do great things for our parish, I'll go double, myself. Instead of fourteen bucks a month, I'll do twenty-eight. I believe in the mission of St. Colman to bring the Grace of Christ into the lives of all in this community. I see so many people here working for the Gospel and living as disciples of Christ. I want to**

**assist them however I can. While I can help and support here and now, I can also give for tomorrow and will be confident that I have made a difference in the years to come.**

**So, I am inviting you to participate in this effort to provide for the next generations of St. Colman. Make a pledge for the St. Colman Endowment Fund and help to ensure a flourishing parish community for years to come.**