



Friday, September 23, 2016  
For Immediate Release  
Contact: Steve Davies  
steve@pioneercatholic.org  
608-220-2088

## Media Release

### **After acquiring all the needed property and necessary city approvals, St. Augustine University Parish outlines a more formal plan/timeline for the Newman Center at UW-Platteville**

(Platteville) With Phase 1 complete, having acquired the necessary land while concurrently working with the City of Platteville to secure all the needed approvals, St. Augustine University Parish is moving forward with Phase 2 - the much-needed student residence.

Presently students struggle to find high-quality, centrally located housing near campus. The proposed \$10,000,000 student apartments will assist those upperclassmen, while at the same time offer a virtues-based residence where tomorrow's leaders can be formed in faith and from which they can serve the campus and larger community.

"With fundraising ongoing, we believe it is realistic that we will be able to break ground on the student residence next fall," remarked Father John Del Priore, SJS, Parochial Vicar of St. Augustine University Parish. Adding that, "This means upperclassmen will be able to take up residence here in the Fall of 2018, as we want to do this right for the students."

This 2017 plan for breaking ground on the residential component of the overall plan (Phase 2), will allow St. Augustine to maintain its rapidly growing ministry serving the students of UW-Platteville. St. Augustine will continue to use the present church and aging Newman Center, as fundraising for Phase 3 continues. Phase 3 consists of building an up-to-date Newman Center with adequate space and a traditionally designed church.

With continued success in fundraising for the third and final phase, it is possible that the entire project will be completed by the end of 2019. This is especially true if Phase 3 can commence close to, if not during, Phase 2 construction, avoiding prolonged construction disruptions and allowing St. Augustine to capitalize on cost savings that come from simultaneous construction.

This is an extremely exciting time at St. Augustine and UW-Platteville. As with any ministry, campus ministry can be measured by the fruits it yields. St. Augustine University Parish and the Newman Center programming have been amazingly successful spiritually. In recent years, vocations have been booming, with seven young men discerning priesthood for three dioceses; many holy marriages formed here; four FOCUS missionaries and two campus ministers recruited here late last year. Finally, several student leaders at St. Augustine have gone on to become religious educators throughout the region and country.

###