



ST. ROCH CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

Church Address:
3600 S. Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46227

School Address:
3603 S. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46217

Dear St. Roch Parish and School Family,

Since January, our parish has been navigating a very challenging financial season. As fellow parishioners, we want to speak directly and honestly with you about where we stand, how we got here, and how we are going to move forward together.

First, we want to reiterate: an independent accounting firm has been reconstructing our past financial records, and we have found no evidence of theft or fraud. What we have found is that capital needs, combined with a period where our operational costs simply exceeded our revenues, have depleted our parish cash reserves.

To help us navigate this, the Archdiocese of Indianapolis has stepped in to provide critical support. We are grateful to have Erich Bangert, director of finance for the archdiocese, currently working on-site with us to provide administrative guidance and answer any questions you may have.

Where We Currently Stand

Over the last several months, the parish has accumulated roughly \$700,000 in debt. We know that is a heavy number to read. But it is important to understand exactly why that debt was taken on: the vast majority of those funds were used to meet our bi-monthly payroll so that our dedicated teachers and staff could continue to be paid, and our school and church could remain fully operational. (Please note: The costs of the independent audit and the archdiocesan staff are being covered entirely by the archdiocese. None of that is being added to our parish debt.)

Moving Forward, Together

We have already made progress in improving our daily financial operations, and we recently received Choice Scholarship funds that will help support our ongoing ministries. However, returning to true stability is going to take time, hard work, and most importantly, it is going to take all of us.

The archdiocese is helping us build a plan to settle this debt, but they cannot fix this alone. The daily life, mission, and future of our parish and school rely entirely on the continued generosity of this community. We know this is a lot to ask after sharing difficult news, but now, more than ever, we need your financial support to keep our doors open and our ministries vibrant.

The best part of St. Roch has always been the people. We built this church on a solid rock, and as Rockets, we know how to rally when times get tough. If we stay rooted in prayer, foster trust with one another, and continue to invest in the parish we love, we will not only endure this—we will rebuild stronger than before.

We will continue communication as we continue down this path. Please keep our parish, our leaders, and one another in your prayers. We are deeply grateful for your faith, your patience, and your enduring dedication to St. Roch.

Fr Hunter and the St Roch Finance Council