

**August 9, 2024.**  
**St. Cletus School Roof Project**

*By: Michael R. Burns*  
*President of the St. Cletus School Board*

I was blessed to participate on a special committee and attend a meeting concerning the condition and much-needed replacement of our school roof. The urgent meeting was called to order by Pastor Father Elmer Romero, who demonstrated ultimate transparency by including members from both our school and parish as well as a Construction Manager from the Archdiocese of Chicago's Planning and Construction Office.

Based on our effective collaboration, a strategic decision was made to allocate the project over four phases from an operational and financial standpoint. The first and most critical phase will be completed this month before our students return to school on August 20<sup>th</sup>, which was an important requirement for us.

More on the financial details surrounding this project are explained by our Pastor Father Elmer Romero, but who would have known an initial seed (Endowment Fund) planted back in 1993, combined with the fiscal responsibility of our current leadership team, was destined to benefit our school over 30 years later.

The Endowment Fund was generous in lending us the funds to address this need, now it is our turn to ensure we return the favor and replenish it. Please note we anticipate more information will follow but, in the meantime, have at least started some internal discussion on the matter.

God bless our school, parish, and community.