

# Our Lady of the Valley Bulletin

## Announcement

### Weekend of May 3 & 4

## Cornerstones

Frequently Asked Questions about our Capital Campaign and New Parish Home

**Q: How should we reflect and pray about our pledge to the campaign?**

**A:** The desired attitude for reflection should focus on stewardship. Stewardship hinges us being reflective, being reflective and aware that we are incredibly blessed by a loving God. More than anything, stewardship provides a spiritual base for the giving that we do. Two approaches illustrate how we often regard the basis for stewardship. The first says, *'look at all I have earned, all I have achieved, and the results of my hard work.'* The second approach says, *'look at what God has given to me, all of my talents to produce in excess for my family, where I live, how healthy I am, look how deeply I have been blessed.'* We often forget this second perspective or are not naturally inclined to acknowledge that all we have is given to us as a gift. Only when we truly appreciate the blessing of God's gifts do we then realize it is our obligation to give back to God in the form of supporting the church and His peoples. Unfortunately, our society tends to emphasize the first notion with the focus inward on self rather than on how thankful we should be for all that we have. Our world places too high a value on individualism. The truth is that all is a blessing and gift from God and it is up to us to offer back in return. Some can afford more in this campaign than others, which does not matter – what really matters is that each of us sacrifice in our own way so that deep in our soul we know we are part of what God is calling us to do.

You may send your questions electronically to [ella@ourladyofthevalley.net](mailto:ella@ourladyofthevalley.net) or you can write them out and drop them in the Building Campaign Question Box located in the entryway. The questions appearing today and future questions will be added to the parish web site soon so that you may refer back to them at anytime.