

## *An Unexpected Proposal!*

Dear St. Henry Parishioners:

As you may know, St. Henry Church made the decision some months ago to stay right where we are and to expand at our current location. It seemed to be the most feasible decision financially, as well as the right decision demographically – this location being not only visible but also well-suited to serve the Catholic population in Owasso and environs.

More recently, an unexpected offer has come our way. Owasso Land Trust (OLT) has approached St. Henry to inquire if we would be interested in the construction of a new St. Henry Church complex in the new Stone Canyon planned community. Here are some particulars relating to their proposal:

- The vision for Stone Canyon includes a “town square” on 60 acres, with a church as the focus of that town square. Location: just off of 76<sup>th</sup> Street North at about 170<sup>th</sup> E. Ave.
- OLT is offering St. Henry the option to be that church, with a **gift of land** amounting to at least 10 acres (current property, including 4 houses on Elm Place, is about 5 acres).
- The offer presumes that OLT will be granted the “first right of refusal” on our current property; in other words, the first option on the **purchase of our current property**.
- The gift of land to St. Henry and the purchase option of our current property by OLT are mutually dependent; not one without the other.
- OLT would allow St. Henry to continue to use our current facilities, as necessary, until such time as new facilities are ready in the new location.

Representatives from OLT recently presented their proposal to the Finance Council of the Diocese of Tulsa. At that meeting, Bishop Slattery commented that a Catholic Church in Stone Canyon could broaden the

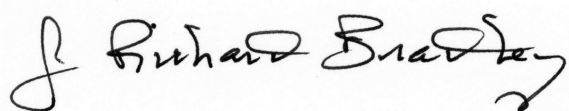
demographic possibilities, allowing the diocese to better serve the Catoosa community as well as Owasso. He also asked if an additional 5 acres would be possible, in order to accommodate possible future development (e.g., a Catholic school). In the end, the diocesan finance council gave St. Henry its blessing to continue with discussions. As you probably know, final approval of any proposal or plan belongs to Bishop Slattery.

Most importantly at this point, we welcome the wisdom and the input of St. Henry parishioners. Please keep in mind that this proposal is just that at this time – **a proposal, not a plan**. With that in mind, you are invited to submit your thoughts and questions in one of the following ways:

- Speak to a member of the Finance Council: Bryon Fry, Ron Ketter, Jennifer Peterson, Dan Sweeney, Chad Tredway or Art Wagner.
- Speak to a member of the Building Committee: Stephen Cataudella, Steve Compton, Jane Enzbrenner, Embry Hood, John Horan, Jerry Jochum or Ilana Velazquez.
- Write your comment or question on one of the cards provided at the Welcome Center, and place the card in the box at the same location.
- And I would be more than happy to hear your comments, in person or in writing. If you'd like to e-mail me, my address is [pastor@sthenrywasso.org](mailto:pastor@sthenrywasso.org).

Thank you for your prayerful reflection on this proposal. Please join with me in continuing to pray, and believe, that the Holy Spirit will give us wisdom and guide our decision making as we continue the mission given to us, that of *PREPARING HIS PLACE* at St. Henry Church.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Richard Bradley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

