

August 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

With the world changing seemingly on a daily basis, and with the advancements in technology and the serious economic challenges facing us all, the need for a superior Catholic education has never been more significant. That's the type of education that students at Marquette Catholic High School in Alton have received since it first opened its doors over 80 years ago in 1927.

While Marquette has served students in Alton and in the greater Madison County for several generations, the passage of time has taken its toll on the very infrastructure of the school's campus. Today, a tour of Marquette High School all too clearly reveals the need for refurbishing, renovation or addition of contemporary equipment and facilities needed to maintain Marquette's leadership in Catholic secondary education.

After much deliberation and study, school and board members have determined the need for a capital development campaign for Marquette Catholic High School, its first since the late 1970's. What exactly is required? Funds raised in the \$3 million campaign will allow the school to achieve several goals:

- To implement state-of the-art technology upgrades and learning resources throughout the campus;
- To address the modernization of classrooms, math and science labs and gymnasium facilities;
- To make more efficient use of energy and improved safety features for students and faculty;
- To renovate the 1957 building to create an Alumni Hall for students, alumni and members of the community to gather; and,
- To increase funds to the existing endowment for future generations of students.

We know that these are tough economic times for everyone. However, we strongly believe that these changes will enable the teachers and staff of Marquette to continue to provide the best in Catholic education and the fullest enrichment of mind, soul, body and heart for the leaders of tomorrow who will keep Alton, and America, strong and vibrant.

With your help and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit we will make this a successful campaign, and one that will provide the basis for our commitment to excellence for our students for decades and generations to come.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki  
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois