

March, 2012

Now that the steel is being erected for our new parish, many have asked, “when will our new church be finished so we can celebrate liturgy, plan weddings, christenings and other sacraments?” It is evident many parishioners are logging onto the St. Demetrios website, www.stdemetriosweston.org, and that this site is becoming a very valuable tool for the parish to keep up to date not only with the “Building on our Faith” project, but with all church announcements and activities. It is evident because when many ask, “will it really be done before the end of the year?” – clearly they have read the Project Updates section.

The answer is, “Yes.” Although it may seem like this is impossible, our schedule has always called for the project to be completed before year end. Success is to honor our mandate to build a solid, permanent edifice in our Orthodox tradition and Byzantine style. Along the way expect some dramatic events such as the placement of our four domes including the main dome raising 64 feet above the ground. Check the website for more details as many will want to take a couple hours off work to appreciate this special moment. Each dome will be topped by a cross and raising especially the main dome cross and permanently installing it will be an event for a special Sunday in May or June depending on church schedules. Of course, there is so much more to celebrate.

Of the required funding, 70% has been pledged but we still must raise \$2.3 million. Many parishioners have indicated they are contemplating their commitment and some are discussing this with their family or extended families in honor or in memory of their loved ones. As these dramatic and inspiring waypoints in the life of our project approach, it is surely a great time to actually make that sacrificial, once in a lifetime gift that will remain part of the legacy of St Demetrios. Remember, no pledge is too small or too big. We are guided by the biblical reference to the poor widow whose small gift is remembered as part of the history of our faith because she gave all and it was the best she could do! Those that can commit to a larger gift will help us achieve our goal sooner and in the end carry less debt. All of us should be included and be recognized as playing a part of this great moment in the history of our church where we affirm our living faith!