

Dear Church Family,

March 7, 2021

This past year has taught us how to deal with many situations in life and make the best of it. However, there are times when you scratch your head and wonder, what...why...how?

Here at Sacred Heart, Pierogi making has been a great fund raiser, a lot of work but the benefits are measurable not only financially but socially. Many hands working together make for delicious pierogi at holiday times: Thanksgiving/Christmas and Easter. It has been a great help financially to our struggling parish.

Some know and don't know that the pierogi are lovingly and tenderly hand-made by many volunteers who also enjoy the camaraderie and socializing as they work their hands and fingers just right to make those delicious pierogi. This amazing process was taking place at Saint Joseph School Cafeteria, Collingdale. The Pastor, Father Thomas Sodano, graciously permitted us to use the facility seasonally for two weeks at a time to prepare them. We compensated the Parish with a nominal donation, which he gladly accepted. In addition, he allowed us to store the large items of equipment free of charge there in his cafeteria kitchen—which was a blessing, since we used the facility twice a year.

Days before Christmas 2020, he called to tell me that he sold his school buildings (old and new) to Catholic Social Services. The buildings will be converted into Senior Housing. He told me that the buildings needed to be cleared of everything that was in them by mid-January 2021. Mark Wufsus, Father Zaleski and I went over the next day and took what we could literally carry out in our hands and load in our cars. Remember, we were literally a day or two before Christmas. I told Father Sodano that we needed more time to arrange for more help (younger and stronger) with a large truck to help move the heavy equipment. He understood and agreed. We were allowed to move the items out of the kitchen and into another storage room. We marked the equipment with our name: "Sacred Heart Church-do not remove" and asked him if he could lock the storage door. Although he did not have the key on him, he said that he would. Father Sodano told us that he scheduled a Saturday and Sunday for anyone in the community to come and rummage through and take what they wanted.

Guess what? Father Sodano called later that designated weekend to inform me that all our equipment for making pierogi was taken. Father Sodano never expected that people would literally take everything, even two metal doors off the hinges. He

was so apologetic. Mark went over that Monday and found that all our marked items and equipment were taken.

Father Sodano and one of his staff members have been trying to track down where the equipment went in order to get it back for us. But I fear that once taken, it is gone. I did ask Father to help us to recuperate our losses by making a donation so we can get new equipment and get back to making pierogi at another facility. Father Sodano said he would when he gets his check for the sale of his buildings. I said that would be a good gesture and his donation will help us recovery our losses.

Joanne and Gene Bidoli, our Pierogi Coordinators, along with Mark will be making a visit to Holy Cross Parish to see if their kitchen and cafeteria facilities can accommodate our process. In the meantime, Joanne and Gene contacted The Restaurant Store to get prices to replace the items that were taken.

Due to this devastating situation, and as we look for another facility, I have to suspend the Pierogi Fund raiser for the time being. Unfortunately, we will not be making pierogi for Easter this year. We hope to be back in operation for the fall in time for Thanksgiving/Christmas.

I am providing a partial list Joanne and Gene gave me for replacement items:

Dough/Potato Mixer - \$2600 - \$4600 *
Large Stainless Steel trays - \$14.00 ea. *(12)
Pots - Large (4), small (2) - \$63.00*, \$55.00*, \$25.99 *
Potato scoopers (6) - \$11.00 ea. *
Spider scoops - (2) - \$9.00 ea. *
Food Processor - 10 Cups. \$45.00
Heavy Duty Wooden Cutting Board - \$42.00*
Large Table Fan - \$50.00
Chef Stainless Steel Knife to cut dough - \$42.00
Table Covers - (6) \$15.00 ea.
Large Wooden Spoons - (2) \$26.00 ea.*
Coffee Pots - (2) \$30.00 ea.

The prices with the * are from the Restaurant Store. The others are from Amazon just to give you an idea. Joanne and Gene selected middle of the road prices.

God bless,
Monsignor George A. Majoros
Pastor