

CORE TEAM

BUILDING A PARISH

November 16, 2008

Last Sunday's readings celebrating the "Pope's Church" in Rome reminded us how we treat "God's House" as sacred noting that it is above all a house of prayer. The building serves as a gathering of God's people for sacred events affording us a place where we celebrate Christ's presence in His Word and Sacrament at Mass. It is where we offer our thanksgiving for God's many blessings and seek consolation for our frailties, our hurts and sorrows.

It is where sacraments are received, blessings imparted and lessons of the heart and soul are taught. The "Church" also has another dimension as personal as every person of faith celebrating God's presence in their lives. Yes, we are the church. As we move forward during this time of transition, merging our two parishes together, the words of St. Paul to the Corinthians can guide us in our hopes and desires for the new parish we can help create together: "You are God's building", St. Paul says. "I laid a foundation, and another is building upon it.

But each one must be careful how he builds upon it, for no one can lay a foundation other than the one that is there, namely, Jesus Christ. Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" (Cor 3: 9c-11,16-17). Words of encouragement for each of us reminding us that we as God's people are also His church.