

# Church of St. Joseph

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Dear Pastors and Pastoral Staffs,

I'm writing this letter halfway through the redemption phase of our Parish's Capital Campaign, organized by Lynch Development Associates. I have held off on writing this letter until now because of the analogy that Jesus draws in Matthew 7: that we will be able to identify the healthy trees by the good fruit it produces.

Together here we have witnessed much good fruit, including the ongoing heroic recovery of some outstanding Catholic Christian families and households. Even after Hurricane Sandy's devastation hit our South Shore of Long Island communities with such force, our parishioners' loyalty and commitment to the Parish's Capital Campaign is gratifying, edifying, and awe-inspiring in its magnitude.

Here are several specific suggestions to keep in a "top of mind" location in conducting a Capital Campaign guided by Lynch Development Associates:

1. In the current economy, pay attention to Kevin Lynch, President of LDA, when he urges you to do a feasibility study. It costs money, but it can save you money in the long run. It is better to know the giving potential of your parishioners who are polled and studied than to assume or to guess.
2. Listen carefully to Kevin when he makes his Power Point presentation on the nature and dynamics of a Capital Campaign, especially his inclusion and understanding of stewardship and sacrificial giving, with which your Parish may already be acquainted.
3. The Capital Campaign will proceed much more smoothly and effectively when the Pastor is on board convincingly, that is, physically, emotionally, spiritually **and financially**. Providing a personal witness and testimony as to why you as a Pastor or you as a member of the Pastoral Team are making a pledge to support the Campaign will be a convincing and important sign for some of your parishioners.
4. Have people working with you who have a **passion** for paying attention to the **details** of the Campaign **on every level**. Be sure that the public gatherings have suitable hospitality, including food and drink, and recall how important food and drink are in significant Biblical and business events.

With these suggestions in mind, I am happy to recommend Lynch Development Associates for prudent and professional guidance in Capital Campaigns. God bless you in your ministry: may the Lord prosper the work of our hands.

With the peace of Christ Jesus,

*Fr. Chris Heller*

Rev. Msgr. Christopher J. Heller

St. Joseph, Babylon, New York



*The Parish of St. Joseph  
is a Roman Catholic  
Community of Christ's Disciples.  
We Welcome. We Worship. We Witness.*

