

A Pastor's Perspective

April 19, 2026 Bulletin



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Recap and Update on Proposed School Projects:

- On Sunday, March 8, the results of the Planning Survey were made available to both the parish and school communities, via a two-page executive summary in the bulletin; in addition, the full, 45-page report had been posted to our parish website until March 28.
- Since then, I have met with each advisory group (separately) to discuss further the results of this study (i.e., All Saints Catholic School Board on Monday, March 9; Pastoral Council on Monday, March 23; and Finance Council on Monday, April 6), to hear their ideas, to receive their counsel, and to answer their hopes and concerns should we undertake these projects.
- I continue to review carefully the results of the Planning Survey, while weighing the many comments, insights, questions, and suggestions proposed at these various meetings mentioned above; I have also received some additional correspondence, via email and letters, which I am taking into consideration.
- In my original comments, I pointed out the challenges of making such a decision which would have immense impact for our parish and school. As expected, the thinking about these proposed projects is not unanimous; in fact, most surveys reveal competing priorities, contradictory views/opinions, and challenging observations. All this has to be weighed before a final decision is made.
- Again, I invite you all to pray about how our parish and school can best serve the local Catholic community, now and in the future.

Welcome Fr. Nicholas Harding! At the request of the Most Reverend James T. Ruggieri, our parish will host Reverend Nicholas J. Harding, OMI (Oblates of Mary Immaculate), as a resident of St. Joseph Rectory in Brewer, effective May 15, 2026. With the support of his religious superior, Fr. Harding accepted a half-time assignment to work in Hispanic Ministry throughout the diocese. Having ministered for many years in the missions of Peru (just like Pope Leo XIV did), Fr. Harding is uniquely qualified to serve those whose first language is Spanish. Centrally located, his residency at St. Joseph Rectory will facilitate his travel to various Spanish-speaking communities (i.e., Cherryfield, Pittsfield, etc.).

I also want to thank our hospital chaplains, SMA Fathers Michael Adebote and Alou Pilizue, who currently live at St. Joseph Rectory and will be providing both a room to him as well as extending him Christian hospitality.

*Peace and blessings,
Msgr. Andrew Dubois*