

## **July Update on Expansion Project**

As our friends and supporters will remember, in December of last year His Eminence, Archbishop Elpidophoros of America officiated at an Agiasmos Service followed by a groundbreaking ceremony marking the start of Phase 2 of the expansion project of St. Michael's Home at its future site in Uniondale, (Long Island) NY. Initially that date was intended to only be an opportunity to further familiarize the Archbishop with the project and to allow him to personally see for the first time the incredible gift of God we had received in the acquisition of the Uniondale property. Indeed, in his remarks that day, His Eminence commented on how impressive the 11-acre site is and the great potential which exists to create a beautiful facility and expand this ministry of the Archdiocese to the elderly.

In the excitement of the Board for that upcoming visit, it was decided that we should also use the occasion to have His Eminence bless the project with a service and ground-breaking, since we did not know when his hectic and heavily burdened schedule would allow him to travel to Uniondale again. In hindsight, it was a little optimistic as it was hoped that with the event, the community would see that the project was not simply a dream but rather that it was becoming a reality and that in turn, those who had not yet participated in the Capital Campaign would step up and support this noble endeavor.

Construction began in January and has been progressing smoothly and without issue. In fact, it has been moving along quicker than expected. As a result, funds on hand for the project are not keeping pace with the expected monthly expenditures and the Board has decided that it would be prudent to TEMPORARILY SLOW DOWN the construction until we are able to collect more of the outstanding pledges but also, secure additional support from the community for the project. We want to avoid issues with contractors, suppliers, etc. and this is the most responsible and ethical way to proceed.

While St. Michael's did not lose any residents in Yonkers to the pandemic, we did lose precious time, in fact a whole year and a half, in fund-raising as the challenges were just too great. Certainly, everyone's attention and focus was on the virus and how to beat it. With people dealing with being ill or the loss of loved ones, it would have been insensitive of us to intrude on them. Moreover, those who were fortunate to escape being ill or losing anyone were understandably just too hesitant to meet to discuss the project or to see the site which totally convinces people that they need to be a part of this endeavor. Additionally, a number of Foundations on which the Home was relying on were already committed this year to COVID relief but we expect to be considered for a grant in the not too distant future.

Hopefully now that the pandemic is waning that will all change, and as a matter of fact, as the Board of Trustees is reengaging its fund-raising efforts, we are receiving positive responses from magnanimous individuals and organizations. So, the temporary slowdown on construction is simply a "bump in the road" or "hiccup" and it is our expectation that construction will accelerate as soon as sufficient monies are on-hand to assure its completion. Too many people are depending on this new facility to not see its completion in a timely fashion and the Board remains committed to it.

So...the time is NOW for those of you who have not yet participated in the Capital Campaign. So many people in the community have been very enthusiastic in their support of the expansion and their desire to see its realization. Well. it is now time to transform those sentiments into substantive actions by checking out the remaining Naming Opportunities or reach out to our Development Office to discuss being a part of this project which will impact the lives of so many people. If you cannot make a major gift, then what you can donate will bring us one day closer to opening the new and expanded facility. A blessed and enjoyable summer to you and we look forward to hearing from you in the not too distant future!





Views of demolished exteriors along main entrance, north facade.



Framing for second floor memory care on west wing.

Installed underground plumbing for kitchen area.



Installed underground plumbing and poured slab on east wing.



New steel erected along south side of the building; metal deck ready to be set.



Poured curbs for southwest parking lot.



## Join us for **ST. MICHAEL'S HOME**



Sunday, November 14, 2021

METROPOLITAN CLUB One East 60th Street New York, New York

4:00 – 5:00 pm Cocktail Reception

5:00 – 9:00 pm Dinner & Dancing Musical Entertainment by Yianni Papastefanou & Orchestra

Inquiries, please call 914-476-3374 www.stmichaelshome.org



## "A Peek Into the Future"



St. Michael's Lobby Rendering



St. Michael's Coffee Lounge Rendering

All contributions to St. Michael's are deductible to the extent provided by the law as the Home is a tax exempt organization under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

This is the electronic news service of St. Michael's Home. For more information, please visit our official website:<u>www.stmichaelshome.org</u>

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