

# January 2026 Building on Our Faith

*Connect • Engage • Grow*

## Walking Tour

On Sunday, December 14, 22 parishioners of Nativity of Christ toured the spaces envisioned for our proposed enhancements.

Experiencing the physical spaces - augmented by colorful images - generated thoughtful questions, sparked engaging conversation, and helped parishioners clearly visualize what the spaces will become. The tour gave participants a fuller understanding of how these enhancements will truly be Building on Our Faith.

Join us for our next walking tour on Sunday, January 18.

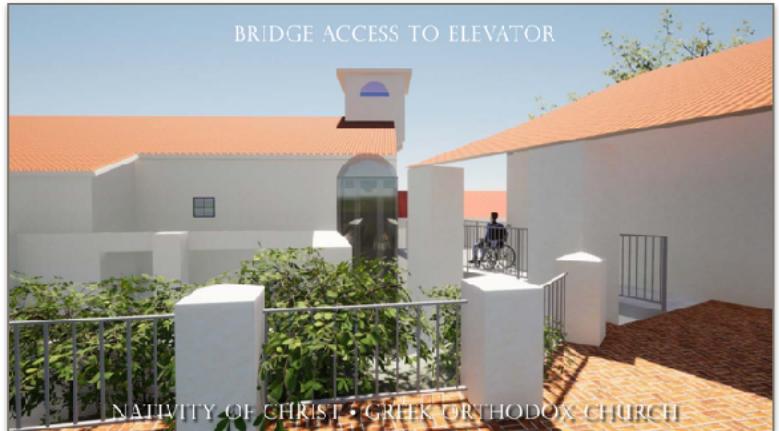
We look forward to seeing you there!



BEFORE



AFTER



# January 18 Walking Tour

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## BUILDING ON OUR FAITH

Sunday, January 18 following the Divine Liturgy



### WALKING TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Narthex/Gateway
- Enlarged Dome
- Small Hall Addition
- Elevator/ADA Access
- Drop Off/ADA Access
- Walk of Faith Path



COME AND SEE

*Take a walking tour with the Steering Committee  
and experience our vision for the future.*

# Hiring of Orthodox Consultant

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## Dear Stewards and Faithful of Nativity of Christ,

Once again, we offer our heartfelt gratitude to all of you who have given so much of your time, talent, and treasure toward the execution of our Beyond 50 Strategic Plan. As we continue our work together to fulfill that Plan, we have now come to the critical stage of implementing a formal capital campaign.

Launching a successful capital campaign is a significant undertaking. This effort requires careful planning, thoughtfulness, and the consideration of every Nativity of Christ steward—each of us is needed to support this important cause.

To ensure the success of this campaign, the Parish Council and the Beyond 50 Steering Committee felt it necessary to seek professional guidance. We are pleased to announce that Jerry Minetos will be joining us as a consultant to help lead the way. (See bio below.)

Jerry is a professional, seasoned, Orthodox Christian consultant with over 25 years of experience. He's played a critical role in helping Orthodox churches all across the country achieve longstanding goals, including raising millions of dollars for Orthodox Christian projects. His deep faith and extensive expertise will be invaluable as we embark on this journey together.

**Save the Date:** Jerry will make his first presentation to our parish on **Sunday, January 25, 2026**. We encourage *all* parishioners to join us for Liturgy, followed by meeting Jerry to hear about the exciting plans ahead. We look forward to welcoming him to our parish.

In Christ,

Beyond 50 Steering Committee and NOC Parish Council

## Jerry Minetos

### **About Jerry Minetos: A Proven Leader in Orthodox Fundraising**

Jerry Minetos, raised in Chicago, holds an undergraduate degree in Accounting from Loyola University and is a Certified Public Accountant in Illinois. He is also fully certified in philanthropy, nonprofit management, and institutional advancement from the Fund-Raising School at Indiana University. Jerry, and with his wife Margaret, have three children and four grandchildren. One of their sons is a Greek Orthodox priest at St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church in Chicago.

For over 25 years, Jerry has been at the forefront of helping Orthodox Christian communities across the country raise millions of dollars to support their missions. His expertise spans a range of areas, including capital campaigns, annual giving, planned giving, grant writing, and event fundraising—each of which has played a crucial role in sustaining ministries and advancing the work of the Church.



# *February 2026 Building on Our Faith*

*Connect • Engage • Grow*

On Sunday, January 18, parishioners of Nativity of Christ toured the spaces envisioned for our proposed enhancements.

Experiencing these physical spaces—augmented by colorful rendered images—prompted thoughtful questions, sparked engaging conversation, and helped participants clearly see what they will become. The tour provided a deeper understanding of how these enhancements will truly be **Building on Our Faith**.



**CURRENT**



**PROPOSED**



# *Jerry Minetos Visits in January*

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## *Jerry Minetos' Visit*



Our Orthodox capital campaign consultant, Jerry Minetos, made his first visit to Nativity of Christ from Thursday, January 22, through Sunday, January 25. During his time with us, he met individually with twenty parishioners as part of the Parish Council Planning Study, an effort designed to better understand personal perspectives, questions, and overall support for the goals of the *Building On Our Faith* initiative.

On Sunday, January 25, Jerry addressed the parish following the Divine Liturgy and enjoyed further conversation and engagement with parishioners during Fellowship Hour. He will return for a second visit from February 18–22 and hopes that as many parishioners as possible will take the opportunity to meet with him. A SignUpGenius link will be available in the coming weeks.

The Steering Committee and Parish Council are grateful for the continued support of our parishioners and look forward to moving our community ahead with a shared vision and unified purpose.

## *Jerry Minetos*

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