

## **Our Lady of Lourdes – Parking Policy**

**Fr. Daniel Griffith, Pastor**

**Effective: October 15, 2017**

In the fall of 2016, a group of parish leaders and staff from Our Lady of Lourdes met multiple times to begin the process of strategic planning for the parish campus and historic church. These meetings led to the development of Jubilee projects that focused on the renovation of the church interior, a new exterior courtyard and the relocation of the Marian grotto. During these planning meetings, the issue of parking came up frequently. A strong consensus was reached among the members of the planning group that the new courtyard would necessitate a change of culture regarding parking on the parish campus. I wholeheartedly supported this consensus.

The goal regarding the new courtyard and landscaping was to create an attractive and hospitable outdoor space that would add to the beauty of the parish campus and the neighborhood. Allowing multiple cars to be parked in this new space would significantly detract from the new courtyard. As an urban parish, Our Lady of Lourdes is not unusual in having limited parking capacity. We also have the distinct advantage of a three story parking garage immediately adjacent to the parish and free parking vouchers for weekend Masses and parish events. As you know, I am not a legalist who is energized by spending lots of time thinking up new parish policies. However, there are times in the life of a parish when new policies can help serve the good of the parish and, in the present case, the noble goal of preserving the beauty of our campus and new courtyard.

### **Parking Policy – Effective October 15, 2017**

**Weekdays:** From 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. a maximum of 4 cars of Our Lady of Lourdes staff members and visiting clergy only will be allowed to be parked in the courtyard area. These cars are to be parked in the rectangular brick area immediately north of the porch of the parish house. Great care is to be shown in coming in and out of the courtyard area so as not damage the brick pavers or attendant landscaping. No cars are to be parked in any other area of the courtyard, including next to the church, in front of the west staircase, or in front of the main gate. Cars parked in these areas or unauthorized cars will be towed at the owner's expense. No cars are to be parked in the courtyard area on weekdays after 5 p.m. except with express permission of the pastor.

**Weekends:** During the weekends, only the following cars will be permitted to be parked in the courtyard area. As above, there will be a maximum of 4 cars allowed in the courtyard area. As above, these cars are to be parked only in the rectangular area immediately north of the porch of the parish house. Only the following cars are permitted to be parked in the courtyard on the weekends: priest presider; deacon; director of sacraments; and director of music. *Fleur de lis* award winners may be given special permission by the pastor to park in the courtyard if parking is available. Cars other than the ones designated above and/or cars parked in non-designated areas will be towed at the owner's expense.

Thank you for your attention to and respect of this new parish parking policy. Please note that it will be strictly enforced.



Rev. Daniel Griffith