

## **Portland Christian School Seeks to Acquire Property from St. Bernadette Parish**

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### **Plan for new location for Portland Christian School, East Campus**

(Louisville, KY) Today St. Bernadette Parish and Portland Christian School announced that they have entered into an agreement for the eventual sale of the St. Bernadette property located at 8509 Westport Road to Portland Christian School. This contract is contingent upon Portland Christian raising the needed funds.

Portland Christian plans to relocate its east campus, now at 12610 Taylorsville Road. The Westport Road campus will accommodate growth in grades 1 through 8 and enable expansion of the school to serve students from preschool through high school. Portland Christian School's primary campus, which serves students in PK-12, will also continue operating at 2500 Portland Avenue in Louisville's Portland neighborhood.

St. Bernadette Parish will leave the 8.1 acre Westport Road property on the market for sale until funding is secured by Portland Christian. Portland Christian hopes to relocate its east campus as soon as possible.

In making the announcement to St. Bernadette parishioners, Father Bill Medley, pastor, said: "We are very pleased that this property, which served as a worship and educational center for thousands of Catholic parishioners for nearly 50 years, will continue to be used for Christian education. We wish Portland Christian well as it embarks upon its fund-raising efforts."

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The property on Westport Road was the home of the former Mother of Good Counsel Parish, founded in 1959. On April 8, 2008, Mother of Good Counsel Parish merged with Transfiguration of Our Lord Parish in Goshen to become St. Bernadette Parish.

This fall, St. Bernadette Parish and St. Mary Academy will move to their new home on the Jefferson and Oldham county line at Highway 1694. The parish will open its offices, located at 6500 St. Bernadette Avenue, in August and will begin having weekend worship services in the school's gym in September. St. Bernadette is in the process of working with architects to plan a permanent church building.

St. Mary Academy (11311 St. Mary Lane), a regional Catholic school that serves more than 500 students in grades PK-8, will open on August 19; the school will be dedicated by Archbishop Joseph Kurtz on August 16.

Portland Christian School was founded in 1924 and serves students from seven counties in Kentucky and Southern Indiana. From its beginning, the school was dedicated to providing affordable Christian education to families seeking it. It operated for over six decades without charging tuition, and today continues to exist only through the generosity of God's people's ongoing support of the ministry.

Houston Cockrell, chairperson of Portland Christian School's Board of Directors, said: "We are excited about the possibilities for PCS at the Westport Road campus. We will continue to use the property for God's work and be able to educate many more young people. Our prayer is that the Lord will abundantly bless our capital campaign so that we can complete the acquisition quickly."

The Westport Road property includes 8.118 acres and five buildings with a total of 52,188 square feet of space.

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