

## St. Joseph Catholic Church

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### **St. Joseph Church and School Take Next Step to Provide for Future Growth**

(Athens, Ga) --The Archdiocese of Atlanta and St. Joseph Catholic Church have purchased 35 acres of land in the 900 block of Epps Bridge Parkway. The property, privately owned for more than 130 years, is located adjacent to McNutt Creek at the Clarke-Oconee County line, entirely within Clarke County. The purchase completes a lengthy search for a new home for St. Joseph Parish.

The St. Joseph Church and School family launched a Capital Campaign in the fall to raise money for the construction of a multi-purpose building and athletic fields on the property. A Master Plan for the site also includes a school, church, parish center and rectory. The Archdiocese has retained the services of Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung, Engineers and Architects of Gainesville, to design the multi-purpose building, athletic fields and infrastructure.

St. Joseph Parish was established in 1873. The present church, at the corner of Prince and Pulaski streets, was built in 1913. It was renovated in 1937 and again in 1984-85, when the present school building was constructed and the church expanded. St. Joseph School opened in 1949 and currently has 350 students in kindergarten through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.