

St. Patrick sets aside land for future building

By TIM JOHNSON, Staff Writer | Posted: Wednesday, March 18, 2009 12:00 am

St. Patrick Catholic Church and the Catholic Diocese of Des Moines are planning for the future.

The church, at the direction of the diocese, purchased some land in 2008 that may be the site of a new church in 2019, said the Rev. David Fleming, pastor of the church.

"We have no immediate plans to build but bought for the future," he said.

The 12-acre parcel is located on the east side of State Orchard Road near Cedar Lane, Fleming said. Eventually, a new church will likely be built on that site.

"We're probably 10 or 12 years out, would be my guess," he said.

The Catholic community is currently focused on the capital campaign for St. Albert Catholic Schools, Fleming said. A fund drive for a new church would have to wait until sometime after that is finished. But church officials are looking to the future, nonetheless.

"The diocese had asked us to begin looking for land; so it was our parish that bought it, but we did it in communication with the other pastors through St. Patrick Parish Corp.," he said.

Church officials looked at four or five different sites, Fleming said.

"We knew that future development was moving that direction," he said. "We wanted something close to what would eventually be the bypass."



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Staff photo/Cindy Christensen - Father Dave Fleming stands in the middle of what is now a corn field located on State Orchard Road but what will one day be the site of a new parish for St. Patrick's Catholic Church.