



## Mary Immaculate Catholic Church

May 13, 2016

City of Farmers Branch

DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY

Dear Farmers Branch City Council:

Mary Immaculate Catholic Church, established in 1956 in Farmers Branch, once again humbly seeks your approval permitting us to host our now 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Fall Festival from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on the evening of September 30<sup>th</sup> and then again on Saturday October 1<sup>st</sup> beginning with breakfast sales from 8:00 am to 10:00 am and continuing with festival rides and food sales from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. that day.

Last year we incorporated a new attraction, a zip-line, into the event. While the zip-line can extend up to 200', we were limited in the size to completely fit within the parking area without obstructing the fire lane. To take full advantage of the length of this feature this year, we are asking for a variance allowing us to use the fire lane on the far east side of the parking lot. This would still leave the fire lane closest to the church structures open for emergency purposes. Emergency equipment would be able to access the area from both the Valwood Parkway entrance, two entrances on Longmeade Drive (the primary access points) and the exit lane on Dennis Lane.

The Parish Fall Festival continues to provide our church the opportunity to come together and offer food, rides, entertainment and fellowship for people of all ages, races, creeds and socioeconomic backgrounds, reaching out to members of the larger Farmers Branch community and surrounding areas. Last year, you graciously and unanimously approved our request to host the Fall Festival. The event was a huge success. Thank you for your confidence in our ability to manage the event in a fashion to serve and accommodate our entire community with little disruption to our neighbors. We have strived to keep the volume of the outside performances to a decent and acceptable level and will do so again this year.

Once again, I am asking that you please grant permission for us to continue offering our Festival including the use of an outside PA system for announcements, music and entertainment and a variance for the use of the east fire lane for the zip-line attraction.

If you have any questions, or need further clarification, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rev. Michael D. Forge, Pastor

