

April 21, 2012

Earlier I was describing the wonderful work of our Planning Office of Urban Affairs. Well, we had another example of that work on Tuesday morning when we gathered to dedicate their latest affordable senior housing complex in Billerica.



The Rose Hill Manor complex was developed by the Planning Office in conjunction with parishioners from St. Theresa of Lisieux Parish in Billerica. Together, they have created a wonderful housing complex for senior citizens on property that had been owned by the church. The name was chosen as an allusion to St. Therese of the Little flower, who is always represented by roses.

Father Gene Tully was very instrumental in bringing this about and he was presented with a table made out of the cherry wood from a tree that had been on the property.

This project is yet another example the benefits society gains through the partnership between the Church and local, state and federal governments.

As the controversy rages about the HHS mandate and erosion of religious freedom, people should realize what an extraordinary contribution the Catholic Church, and other nonprofits, make to the life of this country and, therefore, the importance of exemptions that allow these kinds of wonderful ministries to exist and to make such an extraordinary contribution to the life of the community.