

Church of Saint Joseph

Making Room at Our Table

Update

November 21, 2011

Dear Parish Community,

The Capital Campaign chairs met on Tuesday, November 8 to review the progress and next steps for ***Making Room at Our Table***. We are excited to share some very encouraging news. To date, we have achieved a 56% household response rate, which according to our consultant, is excellent at this stage of a campaign. As of this writing, of 1,173 total parish households, we have received 661 responses. 442 households have pledged a total of \$1,123,207, of which \$233,544 is cash in hand. During the planning process, a feasibility study indicated that our parish could raise between \$1.2 and \$1.4 million. Based on the campaign results so far, we are close to achieving this goal. In addition, the parish has cash reserves of \$555,000 for building and maintenance and excess funds from 4th of July Festival proceeds of \$39,700. So, in total, we have \$1,717,907 pledged and/or available for maintenance and new construction.

The plan is to meet with the architect in January, share our budget and develop a revised architectural plan that keeps our project within our fixed budget and incorporates the most common parishioner suggestions. (See reverse)

Maintenance projects and estimated costs for our parish campus are as follows.

Church Replace main roof and install gutters/Tuck point north and south exteriors/ Replace bell tower windows	\$268,500
Parish Office Replace roof/Replace lower level carpet	25,500
Rectory/Residence Replace roof/Replace carpet/Replace windows	31,300
Lab School Replace gym ceiling tile/Raise stairwell hand rails/Repair interior glass block & wall plaster	72,000
Grounds Patch main parking lot asphalt	3,000
Cemetery Property New parish storage facility	62,650
Total	\$462,950

From the responses received, the committee would like to address some commonly asked questions:

Q: Is this the right time for a building project in light of the uncertain economy?

A: Building costs are attractively low at this time. This project will infuse capital into the local construction industry and economy.

Q: Is there a danger of the Lab School closing because of the building project?

A: Exactly the opposite. Our hope is that a new facility will attract more young families and encourage them to become more active in our parish. New construction may allow for all-day preschool, which is an idea that has been brought up as a desirable option to further promote our school.

Q: Why wasn't the capital campaign put to a vote?

A: Parish members have the opportunity to vote with their choice of financial support. To date, of 661 overall responses, only 9 have been against the project.

Q: What will happen with the school playground?

A: We recognize the importance of adequate playground facilities for the health and well-being of our students and parish members. The playground will be incorporated into the next set of drawings.

Q: How can we afford a new building when we are below budget each Sunday?

A: The annual budget amount published in the bulletin is an average of our weekly offering. We also receive income from holy day offerings, gifts and bequests, the parish festival, the diocese and interest income. If our Sunday offering is below budget, income from other sources and management of expenses keep the parish from operating at a loss. Over the past five years, we have consistently operated within our annual budget.

Q: The initial design covers up some of our stained glass windows on the west side of the building. Is there another option?

A: This was a common concern and it will be addressed in the next architect's design.

Finally, we want to say thank you to all the parish members who have pledged both financial and spiritual support to "***Make Room at Our Table.***" As new pledges arrive and project updates become available, the various committees will continue to keep the parish community informed.

Blessings and peace,

Making Room at Our Table Campaign Chairs

Nettie and Bob Pfannenstein (Honorary Chairs)
Darlene and Herb Bechtold
Amy and Kevin Kluesner

Deb and Rick Baron
Erinn and Andy Hawkins
Susan and Alex Schleper