

M RESTORE and RENEW

HONORING OUR HISTORY,
SECURING OUR FUTURE

FREQUENTLY
ASKED QUESTIONS



During our planning study, parishioners shared many insightful questions. Thank you! In the spirit of transparency and communication, we want to respond to the questions we heard in the planning study through a series of bulletin inserts. For all the FAQ inserts and more information about the campaign, please visit our website at assumptioncatholicchurch.org/capital-campaign/.

WHAT IS A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AND WHY IS IT THE BEST PATH FORWARD FOR OUR PARISH?

A capital campaign is a concentrated effort to fundraise for a specific goal or purpose over a defined period—in our case 28 weeks. It requires the recruitment and training of parishioners to serve as leaders and volunteers to assist Fr. Jason in sharing the campaign message. It must feature clear and consistent communication and requires the cooperation of campaign leadership to meet deadlines to stay on task.

Assumption leaders identified significant structural projects in the church that we must address to meet our immediate and long-term needs. Through planning study feedback from parishioners, a capital campaign is the best way to pay for these upgrades because a campaign allows donors to fulfill commitments over a three-year pledge period.

WHY IS NOW THE RIGHT TIME FOR A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN?

The parish has needs that are integral to the bones and foundation of our church. Some of these significant needs, like the mold on the ceiling, or the 70-year-old electrical wiring, must be addressed for the safety of our parishioners now. The reality is the renovations will only become more costly the longer we wait to address these needs. We cannot continue to wait, particularly given our structural needs, if we want our parish to thrive and for generations to come.



HOW DID WE DECIDE ON THESE PROJECTS AND A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN?

After thoughtful discernment and a positive planning study, we have decided to move forward with a capital campaign to address our needs. Our parish leaders prayerfully assessed and considered necessary renovations for years. Rather than making isolated repairs, we aim to renew thoughtfully our sacred space as a whole.

Over the years, leaders priced out individual renovations to explore what was best for the community. Individual projects priced with different contractors became costly. It became clear that to address the structural needs and restorations, we needed to think about experts who could holistically consider the impact of each renovation in a Catholic church. More about Baker Liturgical Art is below.

Again, leadership did not decide to enter a campaign lightly. To ensure success and be faithful stewards, we hired the Steier Group to conduct a planning study. Every parishioner was invited to share insights from September to November 2023. Given the positive results of the study and the critical needs of the church, parish leadership discerned to move forward with a campaign. *(over)*



HOW WAS BAKER LITURGICAL ART SELECTED AS THE ARCHITECT? WHAT ARE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS?

Baker Liturgical Art has established a strong reputation in the Diocese of St. Augustine. Their expert renovations and renewals in the diocese include the Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine, Saint Augustine in Gainesville, and San Jose Catholic Church in Jacksonville, to name a few. They have become trusted experts in the diocese.

While leadership considered other companies, no other organization provided a holistic approach from conception to entire project completion or specialized in Catholic churches. One company that had experience with Catholic churches could design it, but Assumption would have been responsible for assessing contracts, hiring, and overseeing the projects. While we understand this pathway may present some benefits, the reality is that it requires an intense demand of time on leaders and volunteers, not to mention expertise in building.

Baker Liturgical Art uniquely hires and oversees the contractor. Because they manage the project and have specialized contractors, they can implement an efficient timeline for renovations and ensure contractors complete projects to the level agreed upon with Assumption. It is guaranteed we won't have contractors delaying the renovations or taking other jobs instead of Assumption. We do not want to have to celebrate Mass in another space longer than necessary.

During the planning study many people said "if we are going to do this, we need to do it right the first time." Hiring Baker Liturgical Art ensures we are doing this right. To see more projects from Baker Liturgical Art (including those listed above) you can visit their website at bakerliturgicalart.com.

DIDN'T WE HAVE A CAMPAIGN FOR CHURCH RENOVATIONS RECENTLY?

While we've had updates in the church over the years, we have not had a capital campaign. Generous parishioners made the additions possible. The improvements made then served us. However, it is time to address infrastructural needs and create a cohesive place of worship that honors God and is fitting for the sacred liturgy. We've had two previous capital campaigns to support our school and the Early Childhood Learning Center.

