

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/.

HOW WILL THE RENOVATIONS ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE OF THE EUCHARIST?

Our Catholic faith comes alive through the wonder of the sacraments which we experience through our senses. Installing new wiring will allow for greater control over the lighting experience. Currently, the lights are either on or off. We would be able to control the temperature and intensity of the lights as needed. While we repair and install new floors, we will also add acoustical enhancements under the floor to provide sound absorption.

Though some renovations may seem superfluous, they are necessary to honor God's sacred home. Restoring the faded brilliance of stained glass allows God's light to shine anew. Refinishing worn pews makes them worthy thrones for prayer. Renovating confessionals to accommodate our leaders and invite parishioners deepens our ability to connect with God while new doors add dignity (and necessary safety improvements). All improvements, big and small, glorify God when done with care and reverence. His house deserves our very best efforts. With each repair, we build not just a building, but our faith.

This is God's home among us, and we cherish the chance to make it worthy of his glory. With each mindful repair, we renew our devotion and deepen our roots in this home for our faith.



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WHY DO WE NEED TO REPLACE THE FLOORING THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH? THIS FEELS COSTLY AND UNNECESSARY.

As shared, the sanctuary steps (behind the altar rail) present a safety concern that we need to address.

The carpeting beneath the pews is difficult to keep clean and sanitary. We intend to relocate the baptismal font to enhance the experience of baptism as the gateway to the sacraments and the entrance to the community of the Church. New materials must replace the carpet and surround the font. Matching the tile, however, risks making the church appear piecemeal and haphazardly assembled from one style and era to another; making it an unbecoming "franken-church," as one parishioner noted in the planning study. Flooring throughout our church – in the sanctuary, in the nave, vestibule, and chapel spaces – creates a unity of space and shows an intentional holistic design for our beloved church.

Replacing the floor will also allow us to better address the acoustics of our church. Baker Liturgical Art has worked in numerous churches and helped address how the proper flooring (and sound elements underneath) can help the auditory experience of attending mass. (over)

WE MOVED THE BAPTISMAL FONT IN THE LAST TEN YEARS. WHY ARE WE MOVING IT BACK?

In the early Church, the baptistry was outside the church in a separate building since no one who was not yet initiated through the waters of baptism could enter the church's celebration of the Eucharist. Gradually baptistries were moved inside churches but still at the entrance or vestibule. The font's placement near the entry of the church is a theologically sound symbol and proper sign of the power of baptism when each of us passes through the portal from original sin to the life of grace. Practically speaking, though it does not greatly hinder our daily celebrations, it can make the celebration of weddings and funerals challenging as we work to maneuver around the font.

DOES THE PARISH HAVE ANY OUTSTANDING DEBT?

The parish has about \$177,000 left on the current rectory as a mortgage payment. There is no other outstanding debt to the parish. You can review our annual financial statement for 2022-2023 on our website at assumptioncatholicchurch.org.

Some parishioners asked about the past school and Early Childhood Learning Center campaign, Heritage and Horizons. The school and Early Childhood Learning Center operating budgets cover the outstanding loan for those projects. No monies from offertory, unless otherwise designated, support that loan. As you can see in the annual financial statement for the year, the parish supports school maintenance needs.

WHO WILL BE ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN?

We will ask every registered family at Assumption as well as all school families to consider prayerfully a meaningful contribution according to their means. We will also invite local businesses, foundations, and other Catholic families in our area to participate.

What is important to remember is that **every** gift matters. We are confident that if everyone in our community supports the campaign in a sacrificial and meaningful way, we will reach our goal! This campaign will not seek equal giving, but equal sacrifice.

HOW MAY I FULFILL MY CONTRIBUTION?

While one-time gifts support our effort, everyone will be invited to consider a pledge payable over a three-year period. This allows our parish community to respond to our extraordinary needs by making an extraordinary pledge. Payment choices include cash/check/ACH/credit card as well as gifts of stock, and property. Assumption encourages donors considering these options to speak with their financial advisor first.

ARE THERE WAYS I CAN HONOR A LOVED ONE WITH MY GIFT?

Yes. Opportunities to honor a loved one by your gift are still being determined as we look to finalize plans. Memorial and legacy gift opportunities will be shared with the parish.

CAN I REDUCE MY OFFERTORY TO MAKE A PLEDGE?

Since offertory is essential to cover our operations for the church, school, and Early Childhood Learning Center, we are asking families not to reduce offertory but to make a pledge above and beyond offertory giving.

