

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

What will happen in the church?

No major changes are planned for the church, aside from updating heat, air-conditioning, electrical and lighting systems, all of which will be more energy efficient. The church also will be repainted for the first time in 30 years, and a ramp will be installed to provide better access to the sanctuary. In addition, the church's first, permanent, intentional baptismal font will be installed for celebration of our primary sacrament.

If the Newman Center is sold, where will college students go?

The new Parish Center will include comfortable areas in the Gathering Space, as well as a library area, that will be welcoming and suited for students to congregate and study. The proposed Multi-Purpose Hall will accommodate Student Suppers and other large meals and meetings. Students, as well as other parishioners, will have access to the Parish Center outside of typical office hours.

How will the addition accommodate people with limited mobility?

The Parish Center will be entirely on ground-level with access from the parking lot. A carport will provide a protected area for arrival and departure. An elevator will be available for moving from the Parish Center to the church, as well as to Kostka Hall. The elevator will be large enough to accommodate caskets for funerals, since funeral visitations will be held in the Gathering Space. The existing elevator also will remain serviceable. In addition, a ramp will provide access to the sanctuary.

Will we lose or gain parking spaces?

While parking spaces will be lost with construction of the Parish Center, spots also will be gained with removal of the rectory. In the end, it's estimated that there will be a few more spots than we currently have. Parking will continue to be a challenge, but the university may be adding parking nearby, which would be available for our use on weekends.

What happens to Kostka Hall?

Pacelli Catholic Schools has re-purposed the school building as an Early-Childhood Center, which will limit Holy Spirit's use of the facility for the Religious Education Program. It's likely that Kostka Hall will become a primary location for REP, as well as Youth Ministry and Boy Scout activities, which is appropriate in that St. Stanislaus Kostka is the patron saint of youth.

Who decided what to include in this proposal?

A Parish Center with combined offices and a gathering space was proposed by a committee that reviewed existing facilities and possible needs during the Unification process. That recommendation was endorsed by the Pastoral Council. In late 2016 and early 2017, more than 30 parishioners were involved in general, "big picture" discussions of a Parish Center, which led to a smaller team working with an architect on design features, cost estimates and final decisions as to what, from the initial meetings, needed to be kept or excluded, often because of cost.

What's the construction already under way at the school?

This was a completely unrelated project, now completed, which was initiated and funded by Pacelli Catholic Schools. In a realignment of school facilities, the Holy Spirit site was established as the PCS Early-Childhood Center.

What kinds of activities will take place in the Parish Center?

Social gatherings, receptions, Breakfast Café, Student Suppers, lunches, student groups, retreats, faith formation, and general parish meetings. It may also be the site of deanery and diocesan meetings, and also could be made available on a rental basis to parishioners or outside organizations.

Is this a want or a need?

This project provides for several very basic and essential needs, such as modernizing utilities within the church, as well as other components that have been deemed necessary for the efficient operation and growth of the parish, such as common areas for socialization, meeting and celebration, as well as gathering all of our staff and programming into one central location. Is all of this needed? If we want to be vibrant and effective in the 21st century, our parish leadership believes it is needed. Is this a want? Certainly. Sometimes needs and wants coincide, and this is one of those times.

Why are we having personal visits?

Home visits emphasize the personal nature of giving, allow for a thorough presentation of the need, give parishioners the opportunity to ask their own questions, and allow visitors to express their enthusiasm for the project. In addition, personal visits place a greater emphasis on stewardship, allowing the volunteer to share his/her own faith experience and participation.

Why am I asked to consider a specific amount?

Parishioners need to know what levels of support are necessary to raise \$5.4 million. A gift amount is suggested for each household to prayerfully consider. No judgment is made on the level of gift you or others make. *The true test of your gift is whether it is planned, proportionate and sacrificial.*

What if I choose not to give the amount requested?

Matters of giving are questions of priorities and your situation is unique unto itself. However, you are asked to prayerfully consider a specific gift. Whatever your response, it should be one of choice and sacrifice, and will be beneficial to this project.

Will I need to maintain my weekly Sunday contribution?

Yes! The ongoing costs of parish programming, staff and maintenance will continue, and regular contributions pay for normal operating expenses.

If I move, what happens to my pledge?

While we would encourage you to fulfill your pledge, the decision is entirely your own.

If Holy Spirit has approximately 1,000 registered households and the goal is \$5.4million why don't we ask each household to donate \$5,400? Why am I asked for a greater amount?

Simply put, successful campaigns don't achieve their goals through mathematical calculation. In our parish, like most, 80% of parish support comes from 20% of the parish. Numerous parish households have a weak connection and don't support the parish. That is why evangelization and outreach are so important!

A goal of \$5.4 million cannot be reached without a number of substantial pledges and others at lesser levels. Some parishioners are blessed with ample resources, and others are not. The important thing is that our gift be planned, proportionate to our means, and reflect a spirit of sacrifice in thanksgiving to God. After prayerful consideration of the request made by a volunteer, please reflect upon your gift by answering two questions. Am I proud (satisfied with?) of my gift? Does it reflect my love of God and my parish?

I dislike pledging. Why am I asked to make a pledge instead of a one-time gift?

You can make a one-time gift. However, the success of the campaign rests largely on pledges that are payable over five years. In addition, by making a pledge, you are able to donate more than would be otherwise possible in a one-time gift.

I would like to pledge, but our budget is especially tight this year. How can I still participate?

The campaign pledge period is structured over five years, and you can determine when you want to start payment of your pledge.

Will my gift remain confidential?

Yes! The only people who with knowledge of pledge information are the volunteer, campaign secretary and the individual who records your gift. These individuals have been instructed to keep all donor information confidential.