

Frequently Asked Questions



St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish

Alive in Hope Campaign

Building on our past, envisioning our future

What is a capital campaign?

A capital campaign is a concentrated effort by a nonprofit organization to raise significant funds within a set period of time. Usually the money raised is to fund acquiring, constructing or renovating a building. A capital campaign usually consists of a planning and study phase, a leadership phase and a general phase. The Diocese of Portland Development Office is assisting St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish in running the *Alive in Hope Capital Campaign*.

What is the goal of the campaign?

The goal of this campaign is to raise \$700,000.

What is the financial situation of the parish and what kind of financial transparency will be established for the parish moving forward?

Overall the financial situation of the parish is good. The clustering of St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish and St. Joseph Parish has been very beneficial as it has provided economies of scale with regard to staffing and some services. We are taking measures to ensure that our parish giving meets our operating costs.

Our parish now has an onsite bookkeeper which will facilitate tracking and reporting finances to allow for more available information for parishioners. There are plans to begin producing an annual report which will list not only financial information but also parish life statistics.

What happened to the funds raised in the last capital campaign?

There was a diocesan-wide capital campaign that the parish was a part of about ten years ago. As this most recent campaign was for the needs of the diocese as a whole, the majority of funds raised went to the diocese. However, St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish was very successful in fundraising for this endeavor and every year we receive a local share, which amounts to roughly \$20,000 from the portion of funds that was put into an endowment. This money is specifically designated and used for building and maintenance projects.

When can projects start?

All projects can start when we have raised at least 50% of the goal in cash gifts.

How will this campaign help secure the future of our churches?

With this campaign we are seeking to enhance the beauty and sacredness of our churches and to improve the functionality and accessibility of our community spaces for all. God designed us to be attracted to beauty so by creating beautiful spaces we allow for more spiritual encounters with the Living God as a community and people of the Living Faith which, in turn, grows our faith and our community and secures our future.

Why are we doing these projects and how much are they estimated to cost?

OUR LADY OF RANSOM

Project description: Renovation of the current worship area including; elevating the Altar area and covering with hardwood flooring, a new acoustical ceiling, a decorative wall for the Tabernacle and Sanctuary, new flooring throughout, a glass wall between the worship area and the Narthex, installation of pews, installation of stained glass windows, an entrance foyer with steeple, earthwork for the addition, walkway and lawn entrance, new Hardi siding, and a new sacristy with sink and cabinetry.

Why: With the promise of a new church building, the original Our Lady of Ransom Church structure had to be demolished in 2015 due to irreparable mold and water damage issues. Since then, the community has been meeting regularly for worship and fellowship in the parish hall despite not having the promised worship space. The community is lively and Our Lady of Ransom churchgoers will finally receive a fitting place to gather for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. A new church space will welcome and attract others to join us in worship.

Estimated cost: \$175,000

Project description: Removal of the kitchen cabinets and countertops and the installation of new cabinets, counter tops and a new pass-through to the parish hall portion.

Why: The current pass-through from the kitchen faces what will be the remodeled church space and will have to be reconfigured to face the recently renovated Parish hall space. This will necessitate moving the commercial refrigerator which will disrupt the current layout of cabinets and counter space. The community anticipates once again holding many church suppers and catered events.

Estimated cost: \$30,000

Project description: A new exhaust hood over the stove and the addition of a three-bin sink.

Why: This project is pending review by local code enforcement officials. It will only be necessary to complete if we are required to upgrade the exhaust hood and install a three-bin sink to retain use of the kitchen for food preparation.

Estimated cost: \$25,000

Project description: An electronic bell for the steeple.

Why: The playing of bells and music actualizes the joy of calling people to worship and celebrate the Lord. We can envision wedding guests leaving the church to the joyous sounds of bells, veterans being honored by bells tolling on Veteran's Day and people of all ages experiencing the spirit of the Christmas season through the music of the bells as they arrive and depart. We also recognize other historical and solemn events through church bells such as the election or death of a pope. Bells remind people to proclaim the presence of Christ to the world.

Estimated cost: \$5,000

Project description: Parking lot and landscaping improvements.

Why: The building of a steepled foyer and a new walkway will necessitate eliminating some of the current parking spaces in an already tight lot. Based on the current need and the anticipated growth of the church community, parking lot improvements are a necessity.

Estimated cost: \$20,000

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENNA

Project description: A small elevator, accessible from the parking lot, to bring people up to the main church and down to the parish hall.

Why: The current layout of the building does not allow easy access to any function area without using stairs. The exterior ramp, which many consider to be too steep, allows access only to the worship area. A small elevator near the parking lot will enable families to enter the building together. People of all ages and physical abilities will have easy access to the worship space and the parish hall for parish647 and community events.

Estimated cost: \$80,000

Project description: A handicap accessible restroom in the parish hall level.

Why: The current restrooms are located half way between the two floors and only accessible by stairs.

Estimated cost: \$30,000

Project description: Removing the archway at the back of the church and reworking the stained glass.

Why: In the original design of the church there was a chapel area in the back that was separated by a glass wall which has since been removed. The current archway with stained glass blocks the natural light and beauty of the exterior stained glass and hinders the colorful light from entering the worship space. In addition, removal of the archway will beautify the church and give it a more traditional cruciform design.

Estimated cost: \$20,000

Project description: A fresh coat of paint on the interior walls, removing and installing a new acoustical tile ceiling with insulation, and moving the pews and installing a new floor covering all in the church area.

Why: These projects will all aid in refreshing and updating the worship space to enhance the vibrancy and beauty of our church.

Estimated cost: \$95,000

Project description: New LED lighting.

Why: The installation of more traditional style light fixtures and lights will enhance the unique spiritual nature of our worship space as well as provide cost savings through energy efficiency.

Estimated cost: \$25,000

Project description: New ADA height toilets in the public bathrooms.

Why: ADA compliant bathrooms are necessary to help those with mobility issues and modern toilets use less water than those originally installed in 1978.

Estimated cost: \$1,500

Project description: Double door replacement at the Narthex to the church.

Why: The current doors do not close properly and there are more attractive designs now available.

Estimated cost: \$3,500

Project description: The construction of new office space and rebuilding the ramp.

Why: The current office space is attached to the rectory in the former housekeepers' quarters. It is cramped and not easily accessible to the public. The new space will allow greater work efficiencies as well as a welcoming place to

meet in what is now an unused area of the property (the gravel areas next to the ramp). In this process, the ramp will also be redesigned for easier use.

Estimated cost: \$80,000

Project description: Parish hall painting and flooring. Parish hall kitchen upgrades, including plumbing work to allow for hot water.

Why: The parish hall has not been upgraded since it was built over 40 years ago. Refreshing and upgrading this space will more properly reflect the vibrancy of our parish community and will allow for more use and enjoyment for Faith Formation, Parish and community events.

Estimated cost: \$30,000

Project description: Heat pumps/air conditioning.

Why: Heat pumps will provide the efficiency of an alternative heat source as well as enable air conditioning on hot summer days as our worship space does not have exterior windows that open.

Estimated cost: \$45,000

Project description: Sound system speaker upgrades.

Why: Improvements that have been made in speaker technology will allow us to install smaller, less intrusive speakers that will provide better quality sound. Removal of the large speaker boxes on the walls will beautify the space and create a more tranquil setting for worship.

Estimated cost: \$10,000

Project description: Restriping of the parking lot.

Why: The current parking lot lines have faded from wear and weather. New striping will assist in maximizing the capacity and safety of our parking lot.

Estimated cost: \$5,000

ST. MARY'S

Project description: Repainting the tin ceiling and other maintenance and improvements.

Why: Although no longer opened year-round, St. Mary's continues to be popular for seasonal worshipers and is still considered the traditional home church for some parishioners. The projects to maintain the church will include, among other items, painting the historic tin ceiling and a platform to raise the altar area.

Estimated cost: \$20,000

Why will this campaign involve pledges and how long do I have to pay my pledge?

Pledges allow donors to consider giving more than is possible through “one-time” gifts. Any commitment is easier to make if we know we can do it over time. We buy homes and cars and make many other commitments this way. Pledge-type giving allows us to truly consider doing our best.

There will be a five year payment period (if needed) for pledges. A \$5,000 pledge to the campaign can be paid at \$1,000 per year, a \$10,000 pledge at \$2,000 per year, and so on. You may choose any payment plan you wish over that five year period: a one-time payment, annual, semi-annual, monthly – whatever works for you. You will receive statements from the Parish letting you know the status of your pledge. You will also receive an annual statement for tax purposes.

Are there “in memory of” naming opportunities?

The possibility of naming opportunities is being discussed. If you have a particular interest, please let us know that you would like to explore the idea.

Is my pledge legally binding? What if I am unable to fulfill it? Will it be confidential?

A pledge is a gift, one you consider to be meaningful to you and it is not legally binding. All we ask is that you do your best and advise us of any financial changes that will impact your pledge or if you find yourself unable to fulfill it. All pledges will be kept as confidential as possible. Only the people responsible for maintaining the records will have access to your pledge information.

Does the money we raise go to the diocese?

The money we raise for the *Alive in Hope* Capital Campaign will be exempt from the assessment to the Diocese. The funds are held by the diocese in a savings account for us as is customary. The funds are designated solely for the capital campaign projects of our Parish.

How does a capital campaign affect the offertory?

The offertory giving is expected to remain constant. Parishioners are asked to make pledges above and beyond regular giving. Parishioners are not asked to diminish giving to the parish but, rather, to consider a commitment above their normal tithe. In the long term, similar campaigns have caused increases in parish offertory by raising the sights of parishioners and their commitment to the needs of their church.

What would happen if there was a change of pastors? Would these projects still be completed?

The money raised in this Capital Campaign will be used for the specified projects no matter what administrative changes may happen. The Parish has a Renovations Committee that will help the pastor see the projects through to completion. The monies are dedicated and will be in a separate account. The work will commence as soon as necessary funding levels are obtained.

Thank you for your support!