



# Capital Campaign Questions & Answers

## 1. Why are we doing a capital campaign?

The purpose of this capital campaign is to raise funds which will maintain and enhance our facilities. St. Wenceslaus is also seeking to eliminate debt from the parking lot project and pay for upcoming city assessments. This is a special fundraising effort for initiatives we are unable to pay for through our annual operating budget.

## 2. What initiatives are being funded through this campaign and what are the costs?

The projects completed will depend on how much is raised during a capital campaign. Below are the proposed initiatives in priority order with estimated costs:

### St. Wenceslaus

- Debt from parking lot project
- Replace boilers
- Repair of cemetery chapel
- Assessment from city for road construction near church and cemetery
- Other exterior repairs

**Total estimated cost: \$1.1 million**

### St. John the Evangelist

- Tin work / eave repair
- Brick and steeple repair
- Rectory foundation repair

**Total estimated cost: \$260,000**

### St. Scholastica

- Tin work / eave repair
- Brick and steeple repair

**Total estimated cost: \$190,000**

**Total estimated cost for all three sites: \$1,550,000**

St. Wenceslaus' leadership has determined the above priority order at each site. A capital improvements team has been established for St. John's and St. Scholastica to work closely with the awarded contractor and complete projects in priority order based on how much capital is raised. Our intent is to not incur debt, so funds will be used as they are available.

## 3. Can I direct my capital campaign gift to a specific site?

Parishioners will have the option to designate gifts to a specific site or multiple sites of worship by indicating this on their commitment card.

#### **4. How long will this campaign last?**

A parish education process is underway and will continue throughout the next few months. At this time, the plan is to distribute and collect pledge cards in April, with giving beginning in July 1, 2020. Every member will be invited to volunteer for the campaign and make a three-year pledge above and beyond their regular giving.

#### **5. When will the proposed projects be completed?**

This depends on how much the NPACC is able to raise and timeliness in which pledges are collected. We hope to begin as soon as possible and will keep parishioners updated on progress throughout the three-year campaign. The earliest our parish could reasonably hope to begin projects would be summer 2020.

#### **6. If these projects aren't important to me personally, why should I support a campaign?**

The New Prague Area Catholic Community and our worship sites serve as our spiritual household and supports our individual faith. As parishioners, we are part of an extended family which is called upon to actively support an array of worship, education, social outreach, fellowship programs and activities. As a family member each of us provides tangible support for all needs within the family, not just those important to us. This is the expectation of discipleship in following our Lord.

#### **7. Who will be asked to participate in a campaign?**

All registered parishioners from each site will be sent the same information and most importantly every household will be asked to participate through giving and volunteering. "Not equal gifts, but equal sacrifice," is the philosophy that best describes this effort. Not everyone can make the same size gift, but everyone has an ability to make a sacrificial commitment.

#### **8. Is it possible to make a gift before year-end?**

Yes, if you would like to make a gift before the end of 2019 because of tax purposes please do so. Please contact Father Theisen or Peter Guzulaitis to arrange for your 2019 contribution.

#### **9. In what ways can parishioners make a gift to the capital campaign?**

It is important to know there are numerous ways in which you can make your gifts. As you consider your commitment, please review the following options:

- Check (please write capital campaign on the memo line)
- Automatic withdrawals from your designated account
- Stocks and bonds
- Required distributions from your IRA (For those 72 or older)
- Real estate

For further information or questions regarding how to make these gifts or the tax benefits, please contact your accountant or financial advisor.

## **10. Will all three church sites continue to be open?**

There are no guarantees for any parish or site due to the ebb and flow of local population and number of registered households. St. Wenceslaus has approximately 1,700 registered households, (1,400 at the St. Wenceslaus site and 300 attend the western sites of St. John and St. Scholastica).

With current number of registered households, NPACC's leadership intends on keeping all three sites open. The Archdiocese has approved this campaign, which demonstrates their support for NPACC to maintain the three sites as well. We conduct this campaign to ensure a future for generations to come.

## **11. Why does St. Wenceslaus need to include the parking lot debt in a campaign? Don't we receive rent from the hospital?**

The parking lot and land is property of St. Wenceslaus Church. It was rebuilt in 2015 by our parish for a total cost of \$650,000. Our current debt is approximately \$470,000. St. Wenceslaus does receive rent from the hospital that goes directly to the debt, however, what we receive doesn't cover the full required payments.

## **12. How long ago was our last capital campaign? What did that campaign accomplish?**

The last capital campaign was at St. Wenceslaus to "Burn the Mortgage and Pave the Way" from our Parish Activities Center (PAC). This was accomplished and the PAC debt has been paid off! St. John and St. Scholastica have never had a formal capital campaign.

## **13. Are we able to use local contractors for the building updates?**

NPACC promises to be good stewards of campaign contributions. This includes receiving bids for all projects from qualified contractors, with a preference of using local companies.

## **14. How can I help?**

There are numerous ways in which you can assist with the campaign including:

- Keep this effort and the New Prague Area Catholic Community in your prayers. Ask for God's guidance throughout this process.
- There will be future opportunities to give of your time. Please be open to assisting when you are asked for help.
- Begin prayerfully discerning your campaign financial gift.
- If you know of non-parishioners who may contribute to this effort, please share that information with Ruth Weinandt at [ruth.weinandt@npcatholic.org](mailto:ruth.weinandt@npcatholic.org) or 952-758-0466 to ensure they receive campaign communication and pledge materials when available.