



Holy Spirit Catholic Church

COMPLETING OUR VISION Each of Us and All of Us **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

How did we accumulate over \$3 million in debt?

Our parish has been able to grow as fast and as well as it has in part because our diocese has partnered with us by loaning us the balance of funds we've needed to build and expand. Our debt to the diocese currently stands at \$3.25 million. Our *Completing Our Vision* campaign seeks to raise \$2.77 million that would earmark \$2 million for reducing our debt and \$770,000 for finishing our worship space.

Why is it important to pay down the debt?

Just like a home mortgage, we pay interest and principal on our long-term debt each month. At our current level of debt obligation, we are struggling to pay the interest due on our loan. By reducing our current debt obligation we will be able to manage the interest payments AND continue to reduce the overall loan principal. In addition, we will be able to continue to offer the programs and ministries we currently have as well as be able to confidently plan for future growth of our Parish.

Why are there two components to this campaign?

The goal of the campaign is to position Holy Spirit Parish so we can address our financial obligation to the Diocese and also complete our worship space. The Diocese of Winona requires us to reduce our debt before going forward in finishing the worship space. \$2 million is required to meet that obligation. The remaining gifts will go toward finishing the worship space.

The campaign booklet indicates we pay 7% interest to the Diocese on our loan. With interest rates dropping, will we see a drop in our interest rate to the diocese?

Yes. Recently the diocese dropped the rate to 6% on all diocesan loans. The diocese expects another drop in early summer.

I'm a fairly new parishioner, why should I help pay down debt that was created before I joined the parish?

Our current debt obligation was generated over time as we built Holy Spirit Parish, School and Church Office space. The current value of our campus is \$11,635,000. The parish, school, ministries and programs we all enjoy and participate in today are made possible by all of the generous and dedicated parishioners, like yourself, who have joined our Parish family at different times over the past 18 years.

How was the layout of the worship space determined?

The layout of the church was carefully designed over many, many months. Our architect, Val Schute, parish pastoral leadership and members of the building committee were guided by input from the parish and previous building task-forces. The configuration, although not fully complete in its design, follows the guiding principles documented in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' publication "Built of Living Stones" for the design and furnishing of Roman Catholic worship spaces.

Why do I need to fill out a pledge card?

Pledging to our campaign helps us anticipate what funds we will be receiving and plan accordingly for both components of the campaign. Our goal is 100% participation; all pledges help us achieve our goal.

Can I participate without committing to a 3-year pledge?

Absolutely. Although the campaign is designed for a 3 year term, we encourage each of us and all of us to participate in whatever capacity each of us is able. With 100% participation, we can achieve our goal.

I donate money to the weekly mass collection. Should I donate to the Capital Campaign in addition to this?

Yes. Your weekly donation helps us run the day to day operations of our parish facilities as well as our ministries, formation programs and liturgies. The capital pledge will ensure we keep up with our mortgage, continue to provide the ministries we currently have, and progress toward completion of the worship space.

What if circumstances change and I cannot honor my pledge?

Although your pledge is not a legal commitment, we hope you will be able to honor it. However, we know that unexpected life changes occur— deaths, loss of job, relocation, retirement, etc. If you need to change your pledge, we understand and will honor your request.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I am currently contributing to the Building Fund. Is this different from the Capital Campaign?

As the *Completing Our Vision* campaign begins, all Building Fund contributions will be combined with the Capital Campaign contributions. We ask that you not only continue to give at your current level, but consider increasing that amount. An example of how this might look: I currently give \$50 a month to the Building Fund. I have prayerfully considered what I want to give to the campaign and determined that I will increase my contribution by \$50. Thus, my total contribution to the campaign is \$100 a month or \$3600 total for the 3 year campaign. On the pledge card the total pledge will be \$3600. If you are already an EFT contributor, you will use the blue form in your packet [for CURRENT participants]. On that form, indicate your current amount contributed to the Building Fund (\$50 in the example) and indicate the change total you wish to make (\$100 in the example). If you want to begin using EFT, use the tan colored form and indicate the amount you wish to contribute each month for the campaign. (In the example, you would indicate \$100). Envelope contributors would fill out only the pledge card.

If I contribute by cash or check, are there envelopes for me to use?

Currently, in every household packet of envelopes there is one Building Fund envelope per month. You may use the Building Fund envelope for your Capital Campaign contribution. When you receive your next packet of envelopes it should contain a monthly envelope for your use titled:

Completing Our Vision
Building Fund Contribution

How and when do I turn in my pledge?

Fill out the pledge card and EFT form (if you are choosing to use EFT) in your packet. Turn it in at anytime by mailing it to the Church, dropping it off in the Church Office or dropping it into the collection basket. We ask that all pledges be turned in by May 11, Pentecost Sunday.

When will my EFT pledge funds begin to be taken from my account?

Funds are taken out on the 5th and the 15th of the month. You can choose one or both dates to have funds withdrawn. Our bookkeeper needs one week lead time to process your request. On the EFT form in your packet, indicate the date you want your pledge funds to begin to be withdrawn from your account.

***Completing Our Vision* is not Holy Spirit's first capital campaign. What were the others?**

- 1992: *A Light on the Hilltop* was launched to build a new church.
- 1994: *Uniting For the 21st Century* was a community-wide appeal to raise funds for our elementary school.
- 1996: *Pioneers 2000* addressed the mortgage for a three-year period.
- 1999: *Jubilee 2000* was a campaign that enabled Holy Spirit to add administrative offices.

What about the *Seeds of Faith* campaign?

This was a Diocese of Winona campaign. Of the total amount raised by Holy Spirit Parish, 25% went to the diocese, 60% went toward the Rochester Catholic School remodeling project (contributed to by all the Rochester parishes), and 15% came back to Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit realized \$110,000 from the funds reached in going over our goal.

Where can I get more information about the campaign?

Updates at mass, the weekly bulletin, and our parish website www.holyspiritrochester.org will have additional information and keep you up to date on the progress of our campaign. If you have further questions, please don't hesitate to contact Fr. Don at 280-0638 or at dschmitz@holyspiritrochester.org.

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