

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE!



As we come together each week during this Advent Season in preparation for the arrival of our Lord and Savior, we want to take this opportunity to review with you where we are and where we want to go regarding our Capital Projects. As you may recall, beginning in 2016, we embarked on a Capital Campaign in conjunction with our 100th Anniversary celebration. Because of your generous and thoughtful giving, we have completed both the outdoor lighting and new church sign. We hope you enjoy the new look! We have received many wonderful comments! Thank you to all who have given, and we ask that you consider doing so again (or for the first time if you have not given in the past). We really want to complete now the most expensive of our projects.

When we first considered the idea of installing air conditioning in the church, we sought and received several estimates on the total cost. At the time, we could not foresee the many issues that would lead to a final estimate well above what we previously envisioned. First, the condition we set that any such installation could not negatively affect the aesthetic appeal of our beautiful church was never fully addressed in the original estimates. It is very important that any such installation have a minimal aesthetic impact on the church. The final plan does indeed take these concerns into account, but at a considerable increase in cost. Second, once a complete review of our existing conditions by our general contractor took place, they informed us of the need to also replace the original heating system as it "has well out-lived its life expectancy". They rightfully informed us that it would not be smart to install air-conditioning just to have the heating system completely break-down in a year or two. The air-conditioning project soon became a complete heating and cooling system project. Third, the cost of construction has ballooned over the last couple of years due to many factors: both the cost of administration and labor continues to rise; minimal sub-contractor choices in Colorado Springs affects bids; natural disasters including hurricanes and fires caused increased demand and cost for material.

Additionally, it took much more time than we thought it would to get through the legal and contractual issues between the Diocese and our general contractor and even more time for the proper design to be created and vetted. Throughout this time, construction costs have continued to increase (and will continue to increase --- so the sooner we begin, the better). The rise in construction costs have also affected the final cost of the bathroom and confessional projects. As a result, and due to other logistical reasons, if we were to phase in each of these projects (i.e. to do one at a time) the final cost will be far more than what it will cost to complete all at once. All of this has contributed to a final cost much higher than what we originally anticipated.

Even though we did not anticipate these increased costs, the Lord sure did! By receiving a wonderful and gracious estate gift, we can almost begin construction on these final projects, but we need your help to bring us over the finish line! We have 900,000 dollars of what we need in order to commence. We need your help to bring in the last 500,000 dollars. Your gift will ensure that Corpus Christi families will have a beautiful and inviting Church in which to worship for years to come! Throughout the month of December, as we anticipate, and then finally celebrate the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we ask that you prayerfully consider contributing to this campaign. We are grateful for all you do for our parish and pray that God continues to bless all of you.

Rev. Mark Zacker
Pastor