

Saving Our Parish Community Center

“A Gift from Our Past...A Legacy for Our Future”

Who will be asked to give?

All parishioners and friends of St. Bart's will be asked to make a sacrificial gift to the campaign. We are striving for 100% participation from all members of the Saint Bartholomew Parish Community.

How much should I give? Will my gift be recognized?

Each of us has different financial resources and income. As a result, each parishioner is asked to consider an investment commensurate with his or her ability to give. Remember, this program is based on *EQUAL SACRIFICES, NOT EQUAL GIFTS*. *All gifts, regardless of amount, will be accepted, appreciated and acknowledged.* In addition, permanent recognition will be offered.

When will the repairs begin/when will they be completed?

We expect to begin the repairs in the Summer of 2010, with their expected completion approximately twelve months later.

What are the goals of the campaign?

The total estimated cost to address the most immediate needs of the Parish Center is approximately \$3,300,000. To achieve this total, we envision utilizing \$500,000 from our savings and raising \$2,800,000 in this campaign. Having an up-to-date, fully functioning Parish Center would allow us to host the celebrations and receptions that are such an integral part of our parish life - and do so in a setting truly befitting the St. Bart's community. Specifically, the most urgent needs include the following:

- *Repair & replace the exit balconies and structure below*
- *Replace the exterior windows & doors – many are rotting and leaking*
- *Reconfigure and upgrade the restrooms – several of the toilets no longer work*
- *Seismically upgrade the Center – the north extension is not earthquake safe*
- *Provide the necessary space and infrastructure for a new Kitchen*
- *Upgrade the entry walkways outside the Parish Hall – there is serious vertical dry rot and this has been leaking for years. In addition, the front walkway is uneven and a hazard*
- *Repave the parking lots*

In addition, we will undertake the following if the funds are available after the above projects have been addressed. The additional cost to address these needs is estimated to be approximately \$1 million.

- *Create a balcony on the south side of the Parish Center, with windows overlooking the Church*
- *The lower floor hallway will be made at one level with an elevator to enable wheelchair access to the upper level*
- *Complete the new Kitchen, to provide for Sacramental and other celebrations, receptions, etc.*

How extensively is the Parish Center used currently?

St. Bart's is a very vibrant worship community – we have approximately **50 clubs and organizations** (as listed on the back of this sheet), and **over 350 children** participate in our Religious Education programs. The Parish Center is the site where most of these clubs and classes convene; if we do not address the Center's needs, it could be deemed unfit for use; without it, the essence of our parish life - and mission - could cease.

Why don't we tear down the existing building and rebuild?

There are *two* primary reasons. *First, the cost is prohibitive* - conservative estimates are that it would cost \$12-\$14 million to tear down our existing facility and rebuild. *Second*, attempting to build a new facility here would allow neighborhood groups to formally express their concerns in a public forum; as a result, we have been advised that the City of San Mateo likely would not allow us to rebuild.

Why a pledge rather than cash? What is the timing of the campaign?

Few people can contribute, in large cash sums, the generous amounts needed to raise the necessary funds. In addition, token and "out of pocket" contributions could not produce this amount. A monthly or annual pledge is the easiest way to achieve greater participation and reach our goal. A pledge also provides the advantage of budgeting an investment over time. Parishioners will be approached for commitments during October, November, and early December.

Will I be reminded to make my pledge payments? How can payments be made?

Yes, you will receive reminders from the parish office based on the payment schedule you indicate on your intent form or pledge card - i.e., monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, annually, etc. In addition, you can make your payments via **Parish Pay** if you prefer. Pledge payments will begin in January 2010.

What is the difference between our Capital Campaign contributions and weekly offerings?

"Saving Our Parish Community Center - *A Gift from Our Past...A Legacy for Our Future*" will address the needs of our Parish Center. Our Offertory (weekly) needs, on the other hand, support ongoing parish operations. Each is essential, and they must be handled separately - your campaign pledge must be in addition to your regular support.

Is my gift tax deductible?

Yes; consult your tax advisor for information. Please make checks payable to *St. Bart's Church Capital Campaign*.

Is the pledge legally binding?

No, it is **not** legally binding; it is only a *statement of intention*. Should circumstances arise which preclude one's ability to complete a pledge, let us know. Your pledge may be deferred and begun again later.

CURRENT USES OF OUR PARISH CENTER

The Parish Center is the site where most of our over fifty clubs and classes convene, and the **over 350 children** who participate in our Religious Education programs enjoy their classes and activities. If we do not address the Center's needs, it could be deemed unfit for use. Our clubs and organizations include the following:

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| Altar Servers | Eucharistic Adoration | Movie Night |
| Altar Society | Eucharistic Ministers | Pastoral Council |
| Angels with Wheels | Eucharistic Ministers to the Sick | Post-Abortion Healing |
| Art and Environment | Faith Formation | RCIA |
| Baptism Team | Festival Choir | Respect Life |
| Bible Study | Filipino Ministry | Retreat Leaders |
| Bingo | Finance Committee | Roamers |
| Book Group | Friendship Club | Samaritan House |
| Bridge for Fun | Grief Support Ministry | Sandwich Sunday |
| Buildings and Grounds | Habitat for Humanity | Second Harvest Food B |
| Catechists | Hospitality Coffee & Donuts | Social Justice |
| Catholics Returning Home | Hospitality/Welcoming | Song Leaders |
| Children's Choir | Hospitality Ushers | Spiritual Direction |
| Children's Liturgy of the Word | Jesus, Mary, & Joseph Prayer Group | Stewardship |
| Circle of Concern | Lectors | St. Vincent de Paul |
| Contemporary Choir | Marriage Preparation | Support Network |
| Craft Night | Men's Club | Women's Guild |
| Divorced & Separated Support Group | Men's Prayer Group | Women's Prayer Group |
| Doers & Goers | | Youth Group |

In addition, over the years we have donated our Parish Community Center to many non-profit organizations, enabling them to serve our greater Christian community. Some of these include PIA (Peninsula Interfaith Action), the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Archdiocese of San Francisco, and our immediate neighbors, St. Matthew's School and Parish and Serra High School.