



PLACING CHRIST AT THE CENTER

A CAMPAIGN FOR
BLESSED SACRAMENT



Blessed Sacrament is committed to clear, transparent communications throughout the campaign. In light of this, we're answering the most frequently asked questions from the planning study.

What is the "Placing Christ at the Center" campaign?

Placing Christ at the Center is our capital campaign, designed to not only place Christ at the center of our lives, but also at the center of our place of worship. In doing so, we strive to create a place of beauty and reverence that inspires each of us, and generations to follow, to make Christ the focal point.

Why are we doing a campaign now?

The *Placing Christ at the Center* capital campaign is the first major fundraising effort specific to our parish since 2003. Our sanctuary floor is in need of structural repairs, we don't have a permanent baptistry and many have called for the return of the tabernacle to a place of prominence in the sanctuary.

The creation of a central aisle will also help to make Blessed Sacrament a more attractive option for weddings and a more appropriate venue for funerals.

Our goal is to transform Blessed Sacrament from something that is simply functional to a church with the kind of beauty that inspires reverence for God.

What steps were taken prior to embarking on the campaign?

In February and March of 2025, we conducted a planning study to gauge support for the proposed restorations. The results indicated the vast majority of parishioners support proceeding with a capital campaign. However, the feedback also reflected a desire to scale back the size and costs of the project. As a result, we cut several elements from the plans and worked closely with our architect and construction partners to find ways to bring down the costs from the original \$15.5 million plan.

What are our campaign goals for Phase 1?

We'll have three tiered goals in Phase 1 of the parish's two-phase plan. The goals included in the Celebration Goal would be prioritized. If we're able to raise enough money, we'll move on to the items outlined in the Challenge Goal and ultimately the Victory Goal.



CELEBRATION GOAL \$3.5 million

- » Rebuild the sanctuary floor with marble tile and an altar railing
- » Create a new altar and ambo
- » Create a central aisle with marble and porcelain tile
- » Move the tabernacle to a place of prominence in the sanctuary
- » Install a permanent baptismal font



CHALLENGE GOAL \$4.5 million total

- (including Celebration and Challenge Goals)
- » Create awe-inspiring sanctuary and nave enhancements including custom paintings and statues
 - » Restore the narthex with tile and custom enhancements
 - » Install new pews



VICTORY GOAL \$5.5 million total

- (including Celebration, Challenge, and Victory Goals)
- » Build the Marian Plaza
 - » Build a maintenance garage
 - » Recreate the Divine Mercy Shrine





Will the construction be conducted all at one time, or will this require a multi-phased approach?

To fully accomplish everything within our vision will require two phases. How much we accomplish in Phase 1 will depend somewhat on how much we're able to raise during this campaign. If we're able to complete all of the restoration work that is outlined in Phase 1, this would serve as a truly significant enhancement to our parish and could stand on its own. Once Phase 1 is complete, we plan on conducting a new planning study to gauge support for Phase 2.

What happens if we don't raise enough money?

Our expectation is, of course, to meet or surpass the goal. If that doesn't happen, Fr. Tim and the Parish Council will meet with the architect to determine the future of the project. Either way, we will only proceed based on the funds raised. We will not be seeking a loan to accomplish any of our goals.

Who will be asked to support the *Placing Christ at the Center* campaign?

We will ask every parishioner to prayerfully consider a campaign commitment through a pledge to be fulfilled over a three-year period. All parishioners will receive an appeal letter with a specific request to consider. The campaign will offer a wide range of gift opportunities to participate at all levels. You may choose a plan that provides you with flexibility and time to complete the payment of your pledge.

How are pledge request amounts determined?

Each parishioner will be asked to prayerfully consider a requested amount, which is based on previous giving to the parish, responses to the planning study and a review by the pastor. These amounts are not expectations, but invitations to discern a meaningful pledge.

Can I choose how campaign leadership uses my gift?

Yes, although most donors are likely to leave their gifts unrestricted, you may designate your gifts toward one of the campaign goals. Leadership will use unrestricted gifts to meet all our goals. Once the campaign officially kicks off, all parishioners will receive an appeal letter and a pledge card. If you wish to designate your gift towards a specific goal, you'll be able to indicate so on your pledge card.

How can we know how the church will use the gifts made to the capital campaign?

In preparation for this campaign, our parish finance team established a separate banking account along with procedures specific to this capital campaign to ensure that funds received are stewarded well and invested in the proscribed priorities. Parish staff and the Finance Council will govern these funds to ensure your generosity is treated with the highest level of integrity. All funds given to this campaign are restricted to the goals outlined in the campaign documents and oversight comes from parishioners and staff together.

What happens to the money that was originally donated for the Marian Plaza?

These funds will be directed towards Phase 1 of the *Placing Christ at the Center* campaign, which will include the Marian Plaza.

Where will we hold Mass while the construction work is being done in the sanctuary?

Mass will be held in the Parish Hall while the construction crews are working in the sanctuary.

Where can I find additional information regarding the campaign?

You can find more information on blessedsacramentcampaign.com

Who can I contact if I have more questions?

Please feel free to reach out to Rose Hockhausen at Blessed Sacrament. She can be reached via email at rose@blessedsacramentchurch.org. Rose will do her best to answer your questions or transfer them to the appropriate person in the parish office.



How can I support the campaign?

In the meantime, we simply ask for your prayers for a successful campaign and for the Holy Spirit to guide parish leadership. We're currently recruiting as many campaign volunteers as possible for those willing to give of their time and talent. Please contact our campaign manager, Jason Eberly (jeberly@steiergroup.com), for more information. In the coming weeks, you'll receive an appeal packet with more information on the campaign and an invitation to participate in this important fundraising effort.

