

ST. ODILIA READIES *for* CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Facilities expansion and renovation are a bold step for any organization, but they're ones that the Catholic Community of St. Odilia undertakes enthusiastically. Our discernment process has lasted nearly 10 years as we considered how to address measures to make the parish campus more secure, more accessible for those with mobility issues, and more hospitable and welcoming for parishioners and guests who come here for so many reasons. The plans provide the space and structure needed for our many ministries to better serve current and future generations of Catholics.

The capital campaign publicly begins this January, but work has already begun. The theme carefully chosen is *Our Faith Our Family Our Future*. The theme expresses our journey of discipleship. We come to faith in Jesus Christ and acknowledge him through membership in a community of faith. Jesus is present where two or three are gathered in his name. In the community of faith, our personal relationship with Jesus is strengthened and deepened as we witness the faith of others and are given the opportunity to share our own. The community of believers – this parish – becomes a family that calls us to mission and gives us the support and direction to become engaged in the work of building up the kingdom of God. It is our task as disciples to make this a better place for those on the journey with us. We are charged with the task of forming the next generation of disciples.

Our Faith Our Family Our Future Capital Campaign is the first capital campaign at St. Odilia in two decades. It is long overdue. It will involve the entire St. Odilia community. Everyone will be given the opportunity to support this project. We need your help.

This facilities expansion is meant to help St. Odilia better fulfill its mission. As a Catholic community of faith, our purpose is to help every parishioner draw closer to Jesus Christ. The building plans relate directly to enhancing our life together in worship and education, and building community by making the parish campus more inviting, more secure and more accessible. The building plans call for added space for faith formation, education programs and music ministry. Providing more accessible meeting space for use by our parish organizations will allow St. Odilia to better serve everyone.



*OUR FAITH
OUR FAMILY
OUR FUTURE*

ST. ODILIA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

“This building project is not just about adding brick and mortar. It's about adding space that addresses our immediate needs – space for our art curriculum, space for our students with additional learning needs, accessibility for students with physical limitations, and adding greater security for our children. It's about providing even more and better opportunities for our current students and current programs that will help our school go from good to great. It's about meeting the needs of our growing community and securing the future of our parish and school for generations to come.”

Brian Ragatz
St. Odilia School principal

“As each of you has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.”

1 Peter 4:10

“St. Odilia is where we gather. It is a welcoming place where we feel at home. This building project makes the whole campus more accessible to everyone.” **Jim Donnelly**
Parishioner and campaign cabinet member

What is included in the building plans?

- The building plans call for the creation of new entrances for our church and school. A new southeast entrance will lead directly into the sanctuary. This entrance will allow us to welcome parishioners and guests directly into our worship space without entering through the school hallway. This entrance will include restrooms and a new room for music ministry preparation.
- A fire suppression system (sprinklers) will be installed in the sanctuary and a combined cry and bride's room will be created, which will feature a family restroom.
- A new school entrance will be created with the addition of a two-story education center. The top floor will be devoted to enhancing the educational offerings at St. Odilia Catholic School. The first floor will allow us to once again reunite St. Odilia school and faith formation ministry staff into a common location to enhance collaboration as we serve the youth in our community. Relocation of current school functions to this new addition will free up additional classroom space in our north wing to accommodate growth in our educational offering to children.
- The addition of an elevator and corridor on the second floor will provide greater accessibility for all.

What will this cost?

The expansion project is currently estimated at approximately \$6 million.

How will we pay for this?

Our hope is to raise the funding needed to support the project through your generous donations. The parish Finance Council has recommended, and the Parish Leadership Council has approved, the use of parish reserve funds and the annual St. Odilia Endowment Fund distribution as an initial gift to the campaign. If we are unable to raise the total funds needed for the project, the Parish Leadership Council has approved the use of other sources of funding, such as additional financing through restructuring our current debt of approximately \$1.8 million. The goal of the *Our Faith Our Family Our Future* Capital Campaign is to raise the funds needed for our expansion project and to minimize the additional debt that may be needed. *Your gifts will determine our future.*

Are the building plans complete?

Although a significant amount of time has been spent developing the general expansion plan and identifying priorities in support of our ministries, there is more work to be done. The next step is to hire a contractor to work with our architect to finalize a more detailed plan. A team has been organized to create a request for proposal for contractor services and to review the proposals and recommend a contractor.

Who will be asked to give to the campaign?

All of our community members will have the opportunity to make a gift in support of our plans. Both parishioners and non-parishioners who are involved in parish ministries will be invited to participate. We will be seeking pledges to be paid over a three-year period in support of the building projects.

Will our gifts be in addition to our current offertory?

Yes. St. Odilia must continue to meet the annual financial obligations that come with operating the parish. Parishioners will be asked to make a sacrificial gift to the campaign above and beyond their normal weekly giving.

Who is leading the campaign?

A campaign cabinet, led by Fr. Rask, has been formed. Fr. Stiles, Jeanne Schaaf, parish administrator, and Brian Ragatz, school principal, are serving on the cabinet, along with parishioners Paul and Vicky Cherne, Jim and Kelly Donnelly, John Feigal, Greg Gerlach, Jeff and Kathleen Johnson, Gary and Karen Krebsbach, Jim Lethert, Todd and Michele Mueller, Jim and Jean Nickman, Gary and Mary Nussbaum, Maureen Rehffuss, Tom and Lynda Savard, Kevin Stoltman, Rick and Jan Storms, and Madel Ventura.

In recognition for their decades of service to St. Odilia, George and Carol Lang and Roger and Marlys Toogood have accepted our invitation to serve as honorary chairs for the campaign. A grateful parish thanks them for their work to build our community. Now is the time for the current generation to carry their work forward into the future.

How can I help?

More than 100 volunteers are needed for the campaign. Volunteers are needed to follow up with fellow parishioners and encourage their support. If you would like to get involved, please contact:

Ramona Michaels, Development Coordinator
michaels@stodilia.org or (651) 415-3350.

Above all, we ask for your prayers for our parish and its future.

“Raising these funds will challenge us. I believe this parish will meet that challenge as we move forward unapologetically to follow the Great Commission to share the good news of Jesus Christ so all may come to know him.”

Fr. Phillip Rask
Pastor