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## Capital Campaign

[stfrancislq.com/capital-campaign](http://stfrancislq.com/capital-campaign)

**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

March 24th, 2023

By now we hope you have all seen the video demonstrating our parish community's need and our vision for the future.

We hope that gives you a better perspective of the need and how we, together as community, can fulfill it.

The exciting news is we are ready to do just that! Thanks to the hard work of the architects and building committee we have received approval from the City of La Quinta to move forward on our new hall and administration buildings! This means, finally, we should be able to break ground as early as this fall!

Now the other news. The Diocese now requires us to have 85% cash on hand of the estimated project cost to start. We are not there yet with a current shortfall of about \$3,000,000.

Our committees implore those of you who have not yet pledged or donated, to do so now! Of the over 6,000 registered parish families, only 960 have donated. Our goal is to have 100% of our parish families contribute. We are not asking that each family donates at the same level, but that each share within their means to show that we are all in this project together.

This addition is about community. We are that community. As you have seen from the video, we as community are so much more to this parish than simply gathering for mass. We have catechesis for our youth, grief support, prayer groups, and Bible study. We have those who prepare the flowers for the altar, groups that collect bottles and offer pancake breakfasts, and I could go on and on. These groups, though individual, help create the entirety of this parish. Each of them serves in some way to make the parish complete. Sadly, as you have also seen in the video, due to an extreme lack of space, some groups that used to meet no longer can, simply because the rooms are already filled. In today's troubling times we must expand our offerings of spiritual peace and development to all not reduce or eliminate them.

Beyond what you saw in the video, we all know that at Christmas and in two weeks Easter, we have people standing in the vestibule, standing outside, in the Chapel and in Bluet Hall. This new building would allow these worshippers to all gather in one spot, in the new hall. No more standing outside. No more being sent to multiple locations. No more confusion.

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The new hall would also provide meeting rooms for catechesis for our next generation of Catholic families, in a safe and secure environment, as well as all of our other ministries. We would once again have adequate space for many former ministries, such as AA, as well as space to host parish celebrations and not be required to hold most of them outside, where we are weather dependent.

This isn't about wants, it is about the need to serve our fellow parishioners, both young and old and we need every one of us to participate to the level that we are able.

To the 960 donors THANK YOU from the bottom of our heart. To the new group of parishioners who have put up hundreds of thousands of dollars for a matching initiative where for every new dollar pledged starting today, they will match it to become \$2.00, GOD BLESS you. To all the others who benefit from the spiritual guidance and nourishment we receive here as community, let us also contribute within our means to maintain and expand our facilities and increase the ministries we desperately need now and in the future.

Pledge packages were handed out as you entered church or are in the pews or can be obtained as you leave the church. Please fill them out and mail them in next week in the envelope provided. You can also scan the QR code in the package and donate online including recurring gifts. Remember, that every dollar contributed will be matched dollar for dollar by the matching pledge initiative up to their limit. Lastly, all parishioners who give \$1,000 or more will be honored on a tribute wall we will install in the new hall.

This is Lent, the liturgical season where we pray and offer almsgiving to atone for our sins. We are counting on you to share your blessings and treasures within your means with those who share your faith and receive the Lord's communion with you.

Together, as community, we can accomplish this goal now, and soon see shovels in the ground as we build the Body of Christ.

Thank you and God Bless You!

**Bill Poland**