



## CAMPAIGN CASE STATEMENT

## FROM THE PASTOR

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

I am delighted to be your pastor. These past three years as part of the Divine Mercy family have been immensely gratifying and rewarding for me.

I'm excited about our future, too, as we launch this new capital campaign to develop our parish. We will complete our worship center, the offices and classrooms, and a home for resident and visiting clergy.

These projects will help us create our spiritual and physical homes. We will be able to celebrate Mass and encounter the Lord on a daily basis. We will be able to provide hospitality and congregate freely, to pray and worship and to minister to one another. We will be able to gather as family.

The spiritual benefits of these projects are abundant, and they have numerous practical benefits as well: more space and resources, better communication and collaboration, fewer inconveniences and shorter commutes, and financial considerations.

These projects represent the future of our parish. Each project meets our immediate spiritual and physical needs and will continue meeting our needs for years to come. These projects and buildings are a good start and will go a long way in transforming our parish into a faith home filled with spirit and life.



We welcome each person as Christ to a warm and friendly environment, where one can be spiritually nourished and refreshed in Christ, to be sent out to spread this warmth and friendliness to all they meet.



The projects in the *Building Our Home of Spirit and Life Capital Campaign* come at a significant cost, however, and will require the generosity of our entire faith family. I am confident, though, that we have set reasonable and achievable goals. We will have to work hard. We will have to sacrifice. We will have to be generous.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I am delighted and excited because the value of these projects far exceeds their cost. I invite each and every one of you to join me in my excitement. I invite each and every one of you to join in this campaign of spirit and life to build our home together. It will be so worth it.

Very truly yours,

*Rev. Michael Cox*

Fr. Micheal Cox





"The words I have spoken  
to you are spirit and life."

– John 6:63

## campaign prayer

Heavenly Father

*Fill us with your spirit and life that we might be built up into the body of your son.  
Help us to be Church and to build a church where we can worship and experience  
your great love. Give us the grace and resources to be your true children. Bless this  
campaign so that our building efforts will be successful. Allow us to achieve our goals  
and yours. Bind us always together as a family and never let us be parted from you.*

*We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*amen*



## FROM THE BISHOP

### *Brothers and Sisters,*

There are few things in our life as a Church community more hopeful, joyful, inspiring and important than the construction of a new church building. It should come as no surprise to anyone that I have personally been on the receiving end of the joy and hope already so evident in our Divine Mercy parish. It would be more accurate to call you the Divine Mercy family and, as we all know, when we Catholics talk of Church, we are always talking about family, God's family. You have been and you remain a simply beautiful community of Faith.

The fact of the matter is, my brothers and sisters, that you have been building up the Church for years there in Clovis. I am thrilled and inspired by your history and perseverance. I am even more thrilled by your current history, not to mention the leadership and wonderful presence of your pastor, Fr. Michael Cox. Fr. Mike along with his team and so many others will bring the building of the new Divine Mercy church to fruition. I am convinced of that. **But they will not and cannot do it alone.**

**Everyone who loves and who is concerned about Divine Mercy Parish is being invited to remain engaged in and inspired by this new phase in the development of our Parish.**

But I must tell you, we are looking for new people and more people to come on board. The *Building Our Home of Spirit and Life* Capital Campaign for the new church is a great opportunity to become involved in something very, very special in the life of the parish. You are invited and all of us, myself included, are further encouraged to respond joyfully and generously to this invitation.

In Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph V. Brennan, D.D.  
Bishop of the Diocese of Fresno



"By wisdom is a house built, By understanding is it made firm; And by knowledge are its rooms filled with every precious and pleasing possession."

*Proverbs 24:3-4*

## Who we are

Divine Mercy is rooted in the Catholic faith, branching out into the Clovis East community with boundaries that extend to Sanger, Shaver Lake and Prather. The parishioners of Divine Mercy are a body of diverse individuals coming together under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to promote the mission of Jesus Christ.

Despite not having a home of our own or a central meeting space,

Divine Mercy's parishioners are dedicated to the parish and highly involved in ministry. Divine Mercy has active Catholic Daughters and Knights of Columbus chapters, the Couples for Christ ministry and a vibrant Prayer Group. Faithful parishioners make up the building, capital campaign and liturgy committees, along with the finance and parish councils. We also offer religious education classes, providing formation for both children and adults.

## PROJECT #1

### WORSHIP CENTER - \$3.8 MILLION

For 13 years, Divine Mercy has been celebrating Mass in the multipurpose room at Clovis East High School. While this has been the site of much community and fellowship and many memorable events, it is time to finally have a home of our own. We plan on building a new worship center on our property that will serve as our church for the foreseeable future. This building will serve our current parishioners and prepare us to accommodate our parish's expected growth.

#### Highlights:

- 8800 sq. ft., with seating for 300-400 people
- Altar, crucifix, sacristy
- Comfortable chairs
- Accessibility for persons of all abilities
- Dedicated space for the choir
- Permanent storage space
- 106 parking spaces
- Ability to have scheduled sacraments
- Increased Mass schedule
- Space for fellowship
- Meeting rooms



#### NOVEMBER 21, 2010

On the Solemnity of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Divine Mercy celebrated its first Mass, as a mission church to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, at the Clovis East High school multi-purpose room.

#### MAY 15, 2016

Under the direction of the Most Rev. Armando X. Ochoa, D.D, Bishop of Fresno, Divine Mercy Catholic Church is established as a parish.

## History OF DIVINE MERCY

#### JULY 22, 2013

A 10-acre parcel of land is purchased by the Diocese of Fresno on the corner of Ashlan and Thompson for the future building of Divine Mercy Church.

#### JUNE 22, 2018

A groundbreaking ceremony for the new parking lot is held on-site with Bishop Ochoa and Fr. Craig Plunket.

## PROJECT #2

### CLASSROOMS AND OFFICE SPACE - \$1.7 MILLION

Divine Mercy has six portable modular buildings already purchased that will be designed, furnished for functionality and installed in set locations. We currently rent the high school, office space and additional locations throughout the week to accommodate our ministries. Having permanent offices will allow for more convenient office hours and space for ministry meetings. Having our own classrooms will give us the space and freedom for meetings on our schedule. These permanent structures will not only save money, but give us the space we need to grow. expected growth.

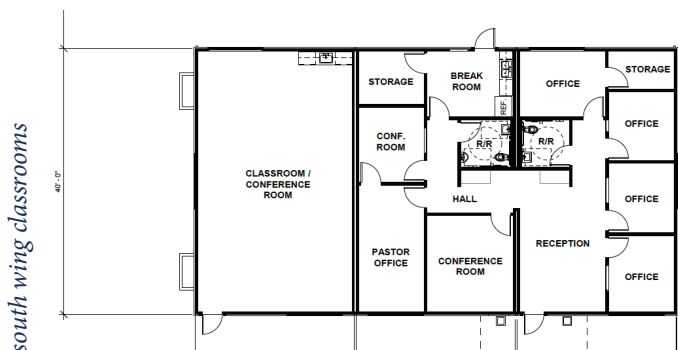
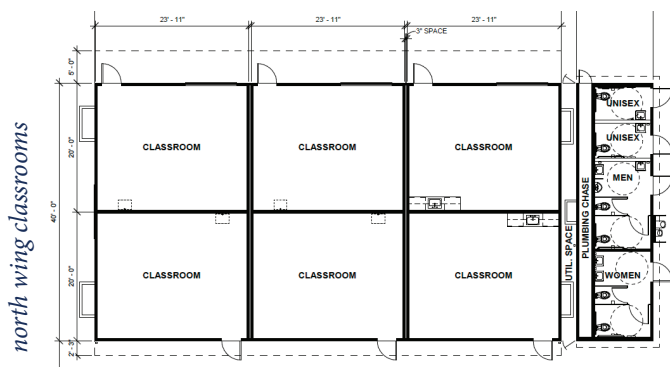
#### Highlights:

##### 3 North Buildings – Classrooms

- 3360 sq. ft.
- 6 classrooms, each able to accommodate 30 people
- 6 restrooms
- Able to customize decorations and layout as we see fit
- Flexible to accommodate growth of new families to our parish

##### 3 South Buildings – Office Space

- 2,880 sq. ft.
- 6 individual offices spaces, including an office for our pastor and deacon
- Reception/waiting area
- A secured room for important documents attached to the bookkeeper's office
- Storage area, staff room, common work area
- Pastor meeting room attached to Father's office
- Conference room available for small meetings
- Gathering space for hospitality after events, coffee and donuts and larger meetings



## PROJECT #3

### RECTORY - \$500,000

Housing developments are going up across Clovis and adjacent to Divine Mercy's property. We plan to purchase a home in the neighboring community that will become the permanent rectory that is within walking distance, possibly close enough to install a walkway or gate directly leading to the parish. In the future, our parish will grow to support an associate priest or seminarian to meet the spiritual and administrative needs of Divine Mercy. Buying a house will be more affordable than building from scratch, and purchasing something adjacent to our property will allow us to keep the space free on our property for future building.

#### SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Fr. Michael Cox is assigned as the pastor of Divine Mercy Catholic Parish.

#### AUGUST 17, 2023

Site Plan Review submitted to the City of Clovis.

*Divine Mercy is currently awaiting approval of these plans to receive building permits.*

#### DECEMBER 7, 2022

Six portable buildings are purchased by Divine Mercy to be used for future classrooms and office space.

#### OCTOBER 8, 2023

The *Building Our Home of Spirit and Life* Capital Campaign kicks off at Divine Mercy to raise the necessary funds to complete our projects.



### WHAT IS THE PROJECTED TIMELINE FOR THESE PROJECTS?

We hope to begin construction this fall, ideally early to avoid the rainy season. We are making every effort to keep the process moving along each week. The next major step is to get our permits approved from the City of Clovis. As soon as this is accomplished, we will be able to pour concrete and projects will accelerate from there. We are committed to keeping our parishioners informed of all progress that is made and any updates to our timeline.

*\*for additional FAQ's, please visit [divinemercyclovis.org/building-our-new-home](http://divinemercyclovis.org/building-our-new-home)*



## CAMPAIGN GOALS AND COSTS

All money raised through previous campaigns and donated to the building fund over the years has been kept in a savings account designated specifically for the building of our new home. Because of the hard work and generous giving of our parishioners over the years, we are already over halfway toward our goal. The *Building Our Home of Spirit and Life* campaign will help us finally close the gap between our savings account and the total amount needed to complete our projects.



## WHY NOW

When asked what they love most about Divine Mercy, our people overwhelmingly said the sense of community and friendly environment. Parishioners shared that Divine Mercy feels like a family, and it's only fitting that our family has a permanent home. Our deeply committed community of parishioners desperately longs for adequate and fully accessible space to gather for Mass, fellowship, ministry and faith formation. This is our vision for the *Building Our Home of Spirit and Life* Capital Campaign. Our goal is about more than constructing a new facility; it is about fostering community while building up the faith.

These projects are more than just buildings. They are opportunities. The opportunity to welcome everyone to come and experience the spirit and life of Christ. The opportunity to host gatherings that foster community and fellowship. The opportunity to celebrate weddings and funerals in a sacred space. The opportunity to respond to the rapid growth in our area and welcome new families. The opportunity to include more people in our ministries and formation programs.

## WE CANNOT AFFORD TO WAIT ANY LONGER

Our community has dreamed of a home of our own since Divine Mercy was established 13 years ago. Many dedicated members of our community have sacrificed for this dream for years, giving generously of their time, talent and treasure. Because of this generosity – coupled with a lead gift from an anonymous donor and a grant from the diocese – we are closer than ever to having the funds we need to complete our projects. The opportunity is within our reach.  
*We have to take action now.*



“If we truly want this home, there is no alternative to supporting this campaign, period! As they say, *‘If we build it, they will come!’*”

TERRY & DEBBIE NEPHEW, Campaign Chairs

## METHODS OF GIVING

There are many options to help meet your needs while supporting Divine Mercy in a meaningful way. Selecting the best gift plan depends on your personal financial situation and goals. You may want to consider stretching pledges over a three-year period to maximize the total amount of support. This commitment can be fulfilled through monthly, quarterly, semiannual or annual installments.

Pledges are commitments made in good faith. Because tax laws change and each situation is unique, donors are encouraged to consult with their financial advisor to determine which method of contributing is most beneficial.

*We encourage all donors to consider a 10-20% initial payment to begin your commitment to ensure we can ensure there are no further delays in construction and we are able to see these projects through to their completion.*

### Cash or Check

Gifts made by cash or check are the most common and will allow Divine Mercy to address its immediate needs. Checks should be made payable to Divine Mercy with “capital campaign” in the memo.

### Online Giving

You may set up an automatic withdrawal or payment from a bank account, credit card or debit card to make initial gifts and recurring payments. Please visit:

[divinemicercyclovis.org/building-our-new-home](http://divinemicercyclovis.org/building-our-new-home) to complete this process.

### Gifts of Securities

Gifts of stocks, bonds or mutual funds are encouraged when supporters have the desire to make a charitable gift and avoid capital gains tax. Please reach out to Zona Roland at 559-374-2242 for delivery details to share with your brokerage provider to complete your gift to the *Building Our Home of Spirit and Life* Capital Campaign.

### Direct Qualified Charitable Distribution from a Retirement Account

Benefactors can make charitable gifts using funds from tax-deferred individual retirement accounts (IRAs). Donors may use this strategy to satisfy part, or all, of their required minimum distribution and lower overall tax liability to benefit Divine Mercy.

### Planned Gifts

Planned gifts provide opportunities to make a meaningful commitment to the campaign now as part of your financial and estate planning. Such gifts can allow donors to accomplish charitable giving goals and take advantage of tax laws. Opportunities may include:

- Bequests from a will or a living trust
- Life insurance
- Real estate
- Designating Divine Mercy as a beneficiary (for example, brokerage transfer on death agreement, retirement account beneficiaries or life insurance beneficiaries)
- Various trust options (for example, a charitable lead trust)

*This information is not intended as legal advice. You are advised to consult your own qualified professional advisor for specific recommendations.*

## Budgeting YOUR GIFT

Divine Mercy invites all parishioners to prayerfully consider a meaningful and sacrificial gift above and beyond their regular stewardship. To achieve the goals of *Building Our Home of Spirit and Life*, we will rely on the participation and generosity of every parish family. Please reference the gift chart as a guide as you prayerfully consider your level of support.

TOTAL GIFT	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	QUARTERLY	ANNUAL
\$108,000	\$1,603	\$6,944	\$20,833	\$83,333
\$72,000	\$462	\$2,000	\$6,000	\$24,000
\$45,000	\$288	\$1,250	\$3,750	\$15,000
\$36,000	\$231	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$12,000
\$27,000	\$173	\$750	\$2,250	\$9,000
\$15,300	\$98	\$425	\$1,275	\$5,100
\$7,200	\$46	\$200	\$600	\$2,400
\$3,600	\$23	\$100	\$300	\$1,200
\$1,800	\$11.54	\$50	\$150	\$600

*Note: The incremental payment examples are based on an initial 10% investment followed by the preferred payment plan for three years.*

# *Building Our Home of Spirit and Life*

## **Capital Campaign Leadership**

### ***Pastor***

Fr. Michael Cox

### ***Campaign Chair***

Terry & Debbie Nephew

### ***Campaign Cabinet***

Patrick & Judy Hiscocks

Tim & Lazel Martin

Margarita Perry

Shelley Romero

Lyn & Maureen Shepperd

### ***Honorary Chairs***

Fred & Nancy Ford

### ***Special Event Hosts***

Mike & Tanya Ubick

### ***Administrative Support***

Jacqui Ramirez

Maricella Gutierrez

Zona Roland

### ***Development Counsel***

Steier Group



---

*"We both found a rebirth of faith in this community.  
Divine Mercy has proven to be a gift from the  
Almighty that we are so thankful for."*

PATRICK AND JUDY HISCOCKS, *Campaign Cabinet*

---



## **DIVINE MERCY PARISH**

2525 Alluvial Ave., Ste. 271 | Clovis, CA, 93611

559-374-2242 | [divinemercyclovis.org](http://divinemercyclovis.org)