



Update!

Building a Brighter Future at St. John Vianney
September 2/3, 2017 *Vol. 1 No. 4*

During the past months, many meetings and discussions were held to conceptualize and identify parish needs, and to develop proposed plans. Further discussions were held with the Diocese of Saginaw to gain permission to proceed with the planning of this project. Meetings continue to occur regarding finalizing these plans and we continue to welcome input of all parishioners.

Beginning with the Town Hall discussions in early May many questions have been asked regarding improvements to our church and the plans to make these renovations. In an effort to keep all parishioners of St. John Vianney informed, these questions were recorded and are answered below.

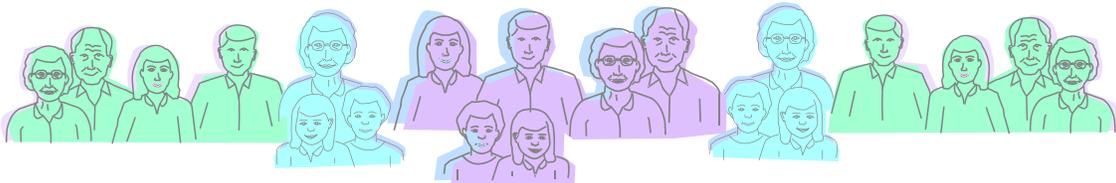
Frequently Asked Questions – *Building a Brighter Future at St. John Vianney*

1. ***Why did it take so long for our parish to do this renovation?***
In some ways, portions of this renovation involve things that might be considered “normal maintenance and upkeep to our parish building”. Roofs, carpeting and parking lots have a life and must be replaced after time. Other parts of the renovation are improvements to make *St. John Vianney* a wonderful place to come, share in Liturgy, and to worship our Lord. The renovation committee has spent time thoroughly investigating repairs and upgrades that need to be made and has prioritized that list to develop a plan and a budget that we can afford at the current time. An example of items not included in this renovation might be the kitchen. While the kitchen is in need of an update, it was decided not to include kitchen renovation at this time. Meeting our Victory Goal would open up discussions on our wish list of improvements.
 2. ***What does the Diocese think about these plans?***
We have presented the plans to the diocese and have full approval.
 3. ***When will construction begin and end?***
The current plan is to begin the renovation project in the Spring of 2018. There are numerous steps that need to occur prior to this happening. A successful Capital Campaign is critical because *St. John Vianney* must have 70% of the estimated cost of the project in the form of cash and/or pledges prior to commencing renovations.
 4. ***How will we finance this project?***
The Building a Brighter Future campaign will be financed with 1/3 coming from current parish savings and the remainder borrowed from the Diocese of Saginaw on a 15 year note. However, we plan on paying this note off in 3 years with the capital campaign. The reason for a 3 year payoff is simple; we can save over \$250,000 in interest by paying the loan off in 3 years versus 15 years.
 5. ***When is the Capital Campaign kick-off?***
The *St. John Vianney* Capital Campaign begins the weekend of September 23/24, and the Case Statement will be distributed on the two weekends prior to that..
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6. ***What if we don't raise the necessary funds to reach our current goal?***
If the Campaign goals are not reached, *St. John Vianney* would have to make some serious decisions. These might include reducing the scope of the project to reduce the cost. It might also include planning on paying for the project over a longer time than the currently anticipated 3 years.
 7. ***How much am I expected to give?***
Sacrificial giving is a personal decision. The Case Statement includes a Giving Guide with it and is offered as a suggested amount. You must weigh your own personal situation and realize that we need complete parish participation and generosity to make our goals. Any amount will be appreciated.
 8. ***How can my pledge be divided over the pledge period?***
You may pay on an annual, semi-annual, or quarterly or monthly basis. Although electronic fund transfer (EFT) is preferred, checks can also be used for periodic payments. Make all checks payable to *St. John Vianney* and place it in its own envelope stating "Capital Campaign" to avoid any confusion with other donations. A reminder will be sent for your periodic payments.
 9. ***Can I make a one-time donation?***
A one-time donation of your 3 year pledge, up front, is possible if that is desired. Additional one time donations are also welcomed and these can be made to *St. John Vianney*, with a note that the donation is for the Capital Campaign.
 10. ***Is my gift tax deductible?***
Yes, Capital Campaign gifts are deductible. Each contributor should consult their tax preparer to review the options in their own tax situation.
 11. ***May I give cash?***
Yes, if you wish. However, because we realize that families cannot usually afford to give a large sum out of pocket, we hope that you will consider a three year pledge. In this way, you can give a smaller amount periodically resulting in a more generous amount over the 3 years.
 12. ***May I donate stocks and securities?***
Yes, we can put you in touch with a Debra Gunn our diocesan liaison, who will have access to a broker to handle the necessary transfer of securities.
 13. ***Is my pledge legally binding?***
No, however you do make a good faith commitment in that you promise to fulfill your pledge to the best of your ability.
 14. ***What happens if I should relocate permanently or find that my financial circumstances change?***
If anything occurs that should change either your physical or financial situation, feel free to contact someone from the campaign. Remember, financial conditions can go either way, up or down. If it's down, you may need to lower your pledge, but if your financial outlook looks brighter, you may want to increase your pledge.
 15. ***Will my pledge offset my offertory contribution?***
Sorry, No. The intention of the Sacrificial Giving of the Capital Campaign is that these gifts are in addition to the regular support of the parish.
 16. ***Who will see my pledge amount?***
The person calling on you will supply you with an envelope for you to seal your pledge. Pledges will be handled as all other donations to the parish, in a confidential manner by the parish bookkeeper.
 17. ***When do payments begin?***
Donations can be given any time after the kickoff weekend of September 23/24. The pledge time period begins on January 1, 2018 and runs through December 31, 2020. Contributions and payments on pledges can be made during this time period.
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18. ***Why do we need to install kneelers? Must I kneel?***
The main reason for installation of kneelers is to be a welcoming parish community. Many of our parishioners and our guests have indicated a preference to kneel during Mass and the installation of kneelers would make kneeling more comfortable. Secondly, current diocesan policy states that any remodel, even as simple as new carpet, would require the installation of kneelers for our congregation.
- If a person is unable to kneel due to health or other reasons that prevent them from kneeling, then it is okay for these people to stand or sit during this time. A profound bow should be made when the priest genuflects after the consecration.
19. ***Can we have some chairs without kneelers?***
Kneelers will be installed on all chairs. It would be a personal choice to use the kneelers, and they can be flipped up and out of the way when not in use. There will also be several handicapped areas throughout the worship area to accommodate those needing this space.
20. ***Would pews be required in the future?***
There is no liturgical requirement that would require pews over chairs. The only future decision of pews versus chair would be if the current chairs degrade and would need to be replaced.
21. ***Will our current chairs last much longer?***
The current chairs have been inspected and found to be in good condition for continued use.
22. ***Why is a larger sacristy needed?***
The current sacristy does not provide the proper space for the celebrant to prepare for mass. In fact, the celebrant currently vests in the Pastoral Administrator's office. Although this has worked in the past, it is more appropriate that the proper space for vestments and vesting of priests and deacons is available in the sacristy. The parish also has a need for a more secure locked room, which would be built into sacristy improvements. The new secured storage will close a minor audit gap that the parish has had.
- Our Church does not have a sacrarium, that is a holy sink. This is a need for the proper handling of the Body of Christ that might still be present on the corporal or other sacred vessels.
23. ***Why do we need new lighting?***
The current worship space is dark in many areas. A brighter worship space will make our liturgy even more welcoming than it already is. The new lighting will also be more energy efficient and will help reduce our energy footprint.
24. ***What are the plans for the space where the current tabernacle is?***
The current chapel space will be turned into additional storage.
25. ***Will we be worshipping at a different location during renovation?***
We are blessed to have a facility that will allow us to worship in our gathering space while the Nave (worship area) is under construction.
26. ***Why do we need a family restroom?***
A review of people attending *St. John Vianney* reveals that there are a number of people who are facing physical challenges. As a welcoming Parish, we need to be more open to the needs of all parishioners and guests, including those that are in need of assistance. The family rest room will be our ADA accessible rest room.
27. ***Will the stained glass windows be replaced?***
The stained glass windows will remain as they are.
28. ***Are there any plans to add a large crucifix in the sanctuary?***
There are no plans to add a large crucifix in the sanctuary. The plan is to upgrade our current processional cross so that it would be placed inside of a larger cross.
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29. ***Do we really need a new parking lot and carport?***
We all know that after heavy rains we end up with “Lake St. John Vianney” until the waters have subsided, sometimes taking as much as eight hours to drain. At times, rainwater has covered all of the parking spots except those at the very outside edge of the parking lot plus more than half of the driveway. Parking lot improvements would ensure that we have the proper drainage and detention area to manage the rainwater. There are also several worn elements of the parking lot that need continual attention, and it is just a matter of time before this will need to be addressed. A carport is one of those items that, while not essential, would be a welcome addition for those who are dropping off elderly or handicapped passengers near the door. Additionally, adding sidewalks, curb and gutter, landscape islands, and a detention area are all required to be in compliance with the current township zoning regulations.
30. ***Are there any plans to add a second driveway to make egress and ingress easier?***
The current plan is to widen the existing drive and provide more defined lanes to allow for a better flow of traffic entering and exiting.
31. ***Will the trees that were planted as memorial be kept, or perhaps transplanted to a new location?***
Every effort will be made to keep memorial trees and landscaping that are recorded in the parish memorial list. Relocation is an option, although tree size and likely success of a transplant will be taken into consideration.
32. ***Will the renovation affect the members who currently walk from Pleasant View subdivision?***
The original location of the detention area was to border the Pleasant View subdivision. A new location has been determined and there will be no change to the access to the border of the SJV property and the Pleasant View subdivision..
33. ***Have you considered environmentally friendly asphalt paving?***
Environmentally friendly products will be considered at all stages of the project. Parking lot durability is our goal, so the appropriate asphalt mixture process will be based on recommendations from the engineer/contractor, soil samples and Michigan climate.



Please pray daily asking God to guide our Parish Community through this “Growth Experience”

Anyone having additional questions or input should share them with a member of the Steering Committee.

Coming Next Weekend!

Each parishioner will be provided a Case Statement, an informational document that identifies the thinking behind the decisions that were made regarding improvements to St. John Vianney Parish Community. It is the “Guiding” information that was used during all discussions.

Please make sure you pick up your Case Statement following the Liturgies of the Weekends of September 9th and 10th, and September 16 and 17th.