

# CELEBRATING OUR FAITH, *Embracing our Future*



Now that we have launched our *Celebrating Our Faith, Embracing Our Future* Capital Campaign, we will continue answering questions from the community through our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). Visit our campaign website at [sjnparish.org/campaign](http://sjnparish.org/campaign) for additional information about our campaign.



## Why isn't there an equal spend on both the church and school projects? Why aren't the cost estimates the same as in the Feasibility Study?

The expenditure on each project is not a result of a decision to allocate a designated amount of funds to the church or to the school but rather a result of the cost to achieve solutions within our guiding principles. The solutions need to: 1) meet Haverford Township ordinances, 2) fit within the estimated budget, 3) work within the space available, and 4) respond to the feedback received from the Feasibility Study to do both projects.

The solution for the school involves both an interior renovation and new construction. These will yield four new classrooms, a teacher's lounge/conference area, new restrooms and a few other items. The solution also sought to avoid losing the stage or space in the cafeteria, which we were very happy to accomplish. To create a greater number of classrooms, the school project cost must rise to at least \$5.0 MM—an additional \$2.5 MM. There isn't a solution available in between the current option and a \$5.0MM+ option. This would take us well above the Feasibility Study budget range and importantly, would not align with the feedback that the school solution must not overreach versus potential future trend changes.

For the church, the Feasibility Study pointed to a desire for a different aesthetic, one that was not overdone. Also, fundamental to the project scope is to increase usable space to allow for more appropriate celebration of the liturgy and other rites. While work was underway to revisit space usage and aesthetics, the significant impact of other elements became apparent. These

items include HVAC, lighting, sound, restrooms, a larger confessional, and creation of a quiet room, among others. These elements are most cost-effectively addressed if incorporated into the renovation plans. To address later would inflate their cost due to substantial rework to the already-completed renovation. We do not have the funding capacity to rework newly implemented renovations. In essence, the church project is not an aggregation of independent sub-projects, rather each is connected to adjacent spaces and systems and thus cannot be separated into discrete projects unless significant rework is done. The church renovation cannot be undertaken piece by piece over time. Leaving our worship space as is will not benefit our parish or school as we look to the changes that may occur in the future of the Archdiocese.

## When can we start construction on each project?

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia, like other dioceses and archdioceses throughout the country, requires a parish to have 75% of total project cost cash-in-hand before construction can begin. Based on the timing of pledge redemption, we will be able to roughly predict the timing for when we will receive 75% of the total project cost and will begin working prior to that to ensure that we can begin construction as soon as possible. Thus, the timing of construction will depend on many factors including the amount of funds raised, the timing of funds received, time of year, impact on campus life (noise, space usage, traffic flow, etc.) and others. As the campaign has just begun, it is a bit early to have confidence in these factors to be able to assess when construction can begin.



We are asking our community to come together in faith to support the *Celebrating Our Faith, Embracing Our Future* Capital Campaign. Together, we can ensure that our campus continues to serve our community for generations to come.