



BUILDING UP GAINESVILLE'S FAMILIES, FAITH & FUTURE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

As our pledge to keep St. Patrick parishioners well informed regarding the capital campaign, leadership compiled questions and concerns raised by parishioners during the planning study. We'll begin the process of answering these queries.



What is a capital campaign and why is it the best pathway for St. Patrick to accomplish these projects?

A capital campaign is a concentrated effort to fundraise for a specific goal or purpose over a defined period — in our case 14 weeks. It requires the recruitment and training of parishioners to serve as leaders and volunteers to assist Fr. Lawrence in sharing the campaign message. It must feature clear and consistent communication and requires the cooperation of campaign leadership to meet deadlines to stay on task.

St. Patrick's leadership identified two significant projects which we must address to meet our immediate and long-term needs. They determined the best way to pay for these upgrades is to conduct a campaign because a campaign allows donors to fulfill commitments over a three-year pledge period.

What is the state of the current rectory? Why do we need to build a new one?

The rectory is in disrepair. It has plumbing, foundation, roofing, chimney, and tree concerns. The roof is not pre-engineered which was also a concern for the building committee because any remodeling would be problematic. It is in such bad condition that a thorough review by our building committee indicated it would cost between \$250,000-\$500,000.

A new rectory eliminates these issues, provides our pastors with the type of housing they deserve, and brings the home closer to campus as opposed to its current 2.1-mile distance from St. Patrick's.

“The condition of the rectory is embarrassing. We need to take care of our priests.”
St. Patrick parishioner during the planning study

What is the value of the current rectory, and will we add proceeds from its sale to our campaign goal?

The value of the current rectory can be hard to determine given that Fr. Lawrence and Fr. Augustine will remain living there through construction. We will not be able to predict the market once we are ready to sell. After completing construction on the new rectory, we will begin preparing the old home for sale and will apply the proceeds to the capital campaign fund. After discussions with realtors, we hope to be able to sell the current rectory for \$300,000 but will aim to get as much value as possible.

How were the building plans and costs determined?

Parish leadership formed a building committee in 2019, comprised of Fr. Lawrence and four parishioners. They worked to identify the rectory's needs and to plan for the future of the parish. They hired a home planner, who developed plans for a home that will accommodate two priest suites, with a guest room for a visiting priest.

What is the square footage of the new rectory?

The proposed square footage is just under 2,600. The rectory will have a common area, kitchen chapel, dining room, laundry room, two priest suites, a guest room, and a two-car garage.

RECTORY FLOOR PLAN





Didn't we previously raise funds for a rectory? Will those funds be part of this project?

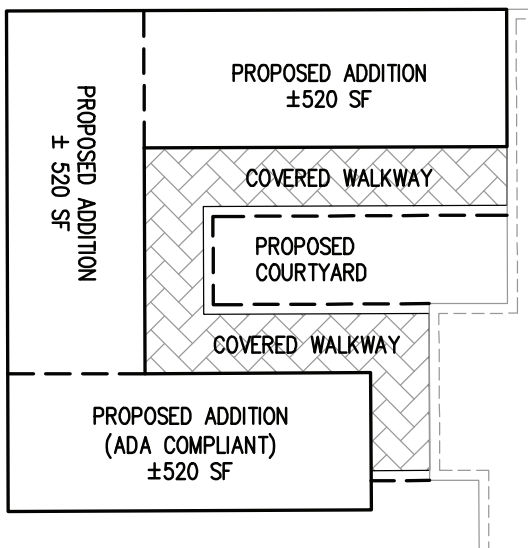
Fr. Roland Julien started a building fund for a new rectory, the balance of which currently stands at \$120,000. These funds will be applied toward the new rectory.

When will construction begin on the rectory and when can we anticipate it being completed?

God willing, construction will begin in March 2024. Re-zoning by the city to accommodate low-income housing must be completed before we can begin. To best support this project, must have at least half of our building costs in cash to begin construction. As a community, we pray for the success of the construction and focus on a completion date of Spring 2025.

What are the current living conditions of the religious sisters?

The current convent has two bedrooms and houses five sisters. Additional housing will allow the Mercedarian order to send additional religious sisters from their community to work at our parish.



CONVENT FLOOR PLAN

How will the sisters impact St. Patrick's parish?

The Mercedarian Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament have the charism of evangelization rooted in a devotion to the Blessed Mother and the Eucharist. Father Lawrence intends to work with the sisters serving in our diocese and assess where their gifts will have the greatest impact in the parish. Sisters may work within St. Patrick's Interparish School, with ministries, programs, and be available for prayer. Sisters also inspire hope and serve as a living reminder of our faith and service to Jesus.

Does the diocese and Bishop Pohlmeier support this campaign?

Bishop Pohlmeier has approved the capital campaign and building projects for our parish. He and the diocese pray for our success as a parish family.

Is our parish in debt?

No, our parish is not in debt. Many families give sacrificially to ensure our parish is financially stable. Father Lawrence has also prioritized the long-term financial success of the parish by ensuring the endowment continues to grow.

Who will be asked to contribute?

We will ask every registered family at St. Patrick's to consider prayerfully a meaningful contribution according to their means. This campaign will not seek equal giving, but equal sacrifice. We will also reach out to local businesses, foundations, and other Catholic families in our area.

What is important to remember is that every gift matters.

We are confident that if everyone in our community supports the campaign in a meaningful way, we will reach our goal!

How may I fulfill my contribution?

While one-time gifts support our effort, everyone will be invited to consider a pledge payable over a three-year period. This allows our parish community to give to an extraordinary degree to these extraordinary needs. Payment choices include cash/check/ACH/credit card as well as gifts of stock, and property. St. Patrick's encourages parishioners considering these options to speak with their financial advisor first.