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Visitation Parish Capital Campaign

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Building for Our Family of Faith

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Background

In February, 2007 Visitation Parish embarked on a funding effort to make significant parish improvements. Through an extensive creation and design phase, which involved input from hundred of parish families, it was determined that the most acute needs were the creation of a new Parish Center and improvements to Visitation School. A three-phase multi-year campus plan was provided, and funding efforts for the projects included in Phase 1 were begun.

Architectural Plans

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The new Parish Center will have improved pick up and drop off areas, 5 meeting rooms, a warming kitchen, choral room, restroom facilities accessible from the Church, ample storage and an elevator to allow greater access to the Church and Podesta Hall. Total square footage of the Parish Center is 14,780 (7,390 per floor.)

Visitation School will receive a new drop-off / pick-up area for convenience and safety. A new computer lab will add a 1,600 square feet of additional space to the school. The library will be renovated and updated. An enhanced Science Classroom / Laboratory will be created from two existing classroom areas, thus becoming one 1,175 sq. ft. classroom. In addition, a small multi-purpose classroom will be created. A "tot lot" playground area will be developed near the school courtyard to provide for protected, age appropriate play equipment.

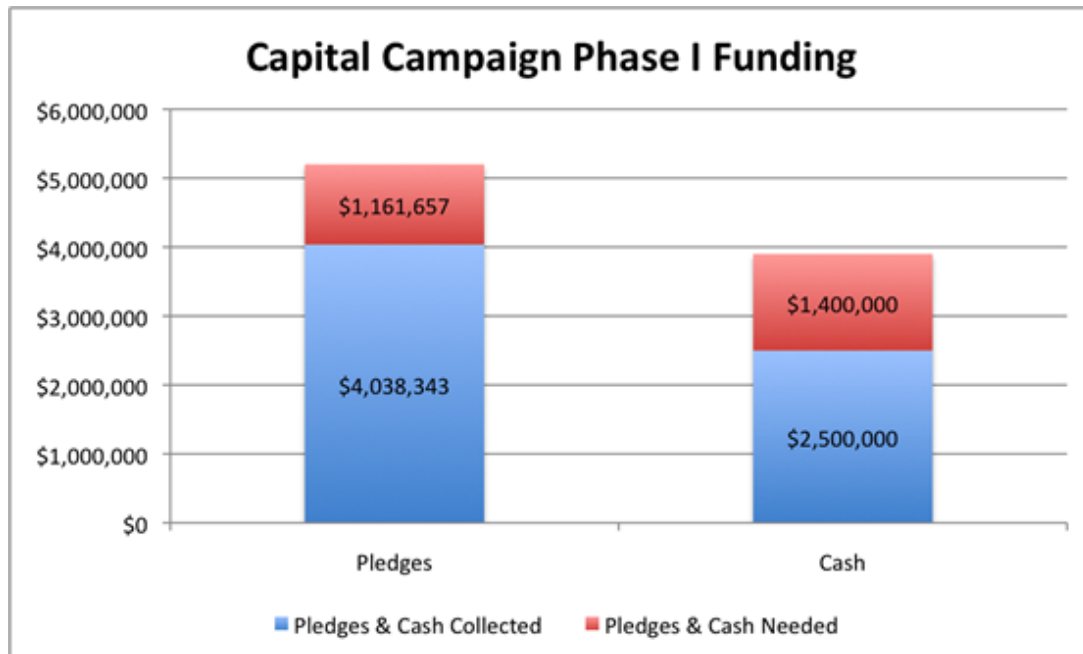
Parishioners will also enjoy 27 new parking spaces, with special attention dedicated to handicapped accessible entrances. Additionally, a sidewalk on Kearsage Avenue will be created.

Financial Commitments

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To date, 983 families have provided pledges for the project. This represents 33% of our entire parish, almost equivalent to the number of those who contribute regularly in the weekly offertory collection. A total of \$4,038,343 has been pledged. (This includes a generous pledge by the Visitation School Endowment of \$200,000, and planned gifts from Monsignor Podesta and others totaling

\$550,000.) Even without counting these unusually large gifts, the parish families themselves have pledged more for these projects than was raised in previous funding efforts including Vision 2000. We wish to thank everyone who has participated.



Campaign Update Meetings [back to top](#)

Recently campaign update meetings were held. All Parishioners were invited. Among the most significant things discussed was the rephrasing of some of the construction projects. Additionally, the total cost of the projects that are now included in Phase 1, total \$5.2 million. We have received just over \$4 million in pledges to date, so we are on the "home stretch" of our fundraising activity. Pledges totaling \$1.2 million are still needed.

Challenge Match Success [back to top](#)

\$609,464 Raised Through the Capital Campaign Challenge Match!

Dear Visitation Parishioners,

Our Fall Challenge Match program concluded December 31, 2008 and there is encouraging news to report. The Parish received new matching contributions from 198 Parish families totaling \$234,464. This represents 63% of the \$375,000 "seed" money pledged. Although this is short of the original goal to have 100% of the seed money matched, this is still a significant achievement considering the financial crisis that hit our country about the same time as we kicked off the matching opportunity at the end of September.

I am extremely pleased to report that all the donors of the matching “seed” money have graciously agreed to allow the parish to keep their full gift (even the amount that wasn’t matched). Consequently, we were able to raise a total of **\$609,464** through this matching program. **This brings the total dollars pledged to the campaign to \$4,647,807 or 89% of the fundraising goal of \$5.2 million.** This is truly a remarkable accomplishment for any parish – especially in light of the current challenges in the economy over the past year.


I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Challenge Match donors, and all Campaign contributors to date for helping us reach this campaign milestone. Thanks also to those who have supported this effort with their prayers and hard work. We look forward to the day when we can enjoy our new Parish Center and the additions to our school building. May God bless you all!

Sincerely,

Fr. Joseph Siegel

Questions & Answers

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If you have [questions about the campaign](#) that are not answered [here](#), please email [Michelle Jimenez](#)  or call (630) 834-6700 Ext. 212.

Historic Capital Campaign Information

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Updated and retired Capital Campaign information can be found on the [Archived Capital Campaign Information](#) page.

Updated Sunday, May 10, 2009