



Frequently Asked Questions by St. Alphonsus Parishioners

Why are we having a Capital Campaign now?

The Love One Another Campaign is an Archdiocesan Capital Campaign initiated by Archbishop Jerome Listecki. Its goal is to raise pledges totaling \$150 million for needs in our parishes, helping the poor, and providing new and strengthened Catholic ministries across the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. \$60 Million total for ministerial needs across the Archdioceses, such as Seminary funding, rural parish assistance, cathedral repair needs, Catholic Charities, Catholic Schools Assistance, and several other projects/needs.

All parishes will participate in the campaign. The last Archdiocesan campaign was the **Faith in our Future Campaign** in 2008.

With the recommendation of the Pastoral Council, Fr. Kevin asked the Archdiocese to have our parish participate in the third wave of the campaign (Spring 2023) since our parish completed its own Capital Campaign in 2016-2019. Archbishop Listecki accommodated this request so our parish could have a period of separation between capital campaigns.

What is our parish's fundraising goal?

Our goal is **\$2,069,734**. This goal was determined by the Archdiocese and is based on the past few years of our total parish giving history.

How will LOA Capital Campaign strengthen our parish?

Sixty percent (60%) of the funds raised at the parish level will fund local parish needs identified by pastors, parish directors, and parish leadership. Our sixty percent (60%) cut will be **\$1,241,840**

What are the proposed parish projects?

The campaign will focus on three areas to strengthen our parish: Mission and Ministry, Capital Improvements, and Parish Finances. Here are some of the other proposed projects that have been identified by Fr. Kevin, our Director of Facilities, and our Director of Finance:

Mission and Ministry

- Provide funds to our parish to distribute to local and international organizations that serve the poor and marginalized.
- Provide funds for future Christian Formation program needs, serving students from 5k through Confirmation.
- Upgrade the audio/visual equipment in the Community Room.
- Replace the carpeting in the Community Room and Gathering Space to make the environment more welcoming.
- Renovate the sanctuary area, including expanding its size and adding a permanent altar, ambo, and tabernacle.
- Enhance the church's current sound system and consider installing T-Coil hearing aid equipment.

Capital Improvements

- Purchase a new and more energy-efficient dishwasher in our school kitchen
- Replace old tile flooring and resurface the terrazzo tiling in the school.
- Reseal the parking lots and completely replace and resurface the remaining north lots

Parish Finances

- Increase the Capital Improvement Fund so that we are financially ready to address any major mechanical failures or facility repairs that arise.

Why change the sanctuary?

Our parish needs a sanctuary that can accommodate a permanent tabernacle and better provide the space for celebrating the Eucharist. In November of 2021, a tabernacle was added to the sanctuary with the encouragement of Archbishop Jerome Listecki. The current tabernacle in the church is "on loan" from another parish, and its current setup is only a temporary solution. While it is good our present sanctuary has a tabernacle, the current layout of the sanctuary was not designed for one.

The campaign funds will allow our parish to enlarge our sanctuary to accommodate a tabernacle, add a permanent altar and ambo to replace the moveable ones we have from the 1980's, and create an even more beautiful space to worship the Lord.

Why do we need a permanent altar?

The altar in church represents Christ. Because Christ is our rock and foundation, the Code of Canon Law says it is desirable that each church have a fixed altar that is immovable. (Can. 1235 §2).

What about kneelers?

While the idea of installing kneelers was considered, the decision was made not to add kneelers at this time.

I can't hear father at Mass! Can we do something with the sound system?

We have heard this feedback loud and clear! Instead of adding kneelers, the decision has been made to focus on enhancing our current sound system in the church instead. This includes exploring the option of adding a T-Coil hearing aid system.

Will the campaign bring the parish into debt?

The purpose of the campaign is to strengthen our parish for the future. Our parish leadership and Finance Council are committed to using the funds we collect in a fiscally responsible manner to strengthen our parish for the future. We are committed to not going into debt because of these proposed projects. As we collect the funds from the campaign, we will prioritize the projects and spend the money responsibly.

Why not give this money to the poor?

The Gospel makes it clear that we are responsible for caring for the needs of the poor. Our parish has a strong history of taking this Gospel responsibility seriously. A portion of the funds collected from the upcoming Love One Another Capital Campaign will be used at an Archdiocesan level to help care for those in need. Along with this, a portion of the money collected from the parish's share will go to a fund that the parish can distribute to local and international organizations that serve the poor and marginalized.