



OUR LADY OF THE LAKE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Love God. Love Others. Make Disciples of Jesus Christ.

TWENTY-EIGHTH
SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 11, 2026

Our Capital Campaign Report

Building Our Future – A Sacred Presence

Three years ago this month, after much prayer and thoughtful discernment, we launched a capital campaign, *Building Our Future – A Sacred Presence*, to provide for the much-needed renovation and new construction project for our church and social hall, as well as much needed expansion of our cemetery. All of this is toward our consistent goal of renewing our parish mission to *Love God, Love Others, and Make Disciples of Jesus Christ*. We listened to parishioners and ministry groups, completed a feasibility study, and set a campaign target of \$10 million to restore our 70-year-old church home. Along the way, the project costs increased to \$13 million as we encountered structural issues, asbestos abatement, code requirements, and permitting delays. At the time I announced the increase of project time and cost, we had just received \$10 million in pledges and contributions.

Project Status

Joyfully we can report that through the generosity of over half of our parish households, and the hard work of our Campaign Cabinet, we recently crested \$11 million in pledges and cash contributions toward our goal. All have made sacrificial gifts, some have given more than once, and others gave what they could while faithfully praying for the campaign's success. Every gift matters because every gift is from a parishioner, committed to our mission.

Thanks to the generosity of those who have contributed, we are approaching a Dedication date of February 3, 2027, for a renovated church with greater accessibility, a welcoming entrance and foyer, and a new Eucharistic Adoration Chapel. All with new fire suppression for safety and new heating and cooling systems for better efficiency, and a better sound system and security. The choir loft will again provide additional assembly seating and music area with a new Rodgers organ. The parish hall will have improved kitchen facilities, storage and gathering spaces. The Cemetery Committee is also closing in on plans for infrastructure projects toward its expansion. All for the sake of providing

resources to better worship of God, practicing the corporal works of mercy and drawing people closer to Christ through the celebration of the Sacraments for generations to come.

A Campaign Challenge Gift

The hard truth is that as we are paying our construction costs as we go, but at completion, the final bill will come due. This is where we need your help. We are so close to our \$13M goal.



Our Campaign Cabinet members have been in communication with several parish families — who have already given once — to give new “Challenge Gifts” to inspire all our parishioners to help us to get over the top. Approximately 650 parish families have contributed or pledged so far, for which we are profoundly grateful.

Here is how you can respond to the Challenge Gifts:

- If you have not yet contributed, please make a pledge to help us reach our goal.
- If you have already given, consider extending your pledge by an additional year or make an additional one-time contribution.
- If you are over 70.5 years of age, consider directing part of your IRA's Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) as a tax-free donation to our campaign.

Your gift is not about equal amounts to other parishioners, but equal sacrifice. You are invited to give at a level that makes sense to you and helps us meet this goal, while still contributing to the normal offertory which keeps all our ministries moving forward.

Please pray for the success of our capital campaign so that we can continue to expand our mission to proclaim the hope of Jesus Christ in our area of the Lord's Vineyard here at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church.

— Fr. John Kerns, *Pastor*, and the Campaign Cabinet