

Why is the Capital Campaign in February, 2008?

The capital campaign had been targeted for this fall, but is now set for February, 2008, because of the following considerations:

1. The timeline of finishing the campaign by mid-December (before Christmas activities) was just too short to complete the tasks of getting project cost information, preparing campaign materials and training volunteers. Also, in the short timeline, the volunteer contact days would be the Sundays before and after Thanksgiving—often a difficult time to reach parishioners, as many families travel during the holiday week. The February date allows time for committees to carefully make decisions and prepare materials and volunteers for the campaign.

2. More definite costs of the project need to be identified. The architects have been asked to break down the project into phases with different price tags. There are many decisions involved in phasing the project i.e. what is the priority (worship space)? This is a huge part of the project--can it be "phased"? What parts cannot be completed later but have to be part of the initial project i.e. utilities? What are our most pressing needs beyond the worship space i.e. religious ed/faith formation space? It is important that parishioners have the best early estimates of the costs and what the project entails before the capital campaign begins, and time is needed to prayerfully make these decisions.

3. Another concern was the pending overlap of the annual Stewardship renewal and the capital campaign. Our plan now is to renew our Stewardship of Time and Talent in November, so that we can focus on Stewardship of Treasure in light of the periodic need to continually respond to capital improvement projects. This delay also provides time for identifying and training volunteers and preparing materials with project details for a committed campaign that can be completed early in the year and still hopefully allow for a "groundbreaking" in 2008.

Those who had planned to contribute to the capital campaign for tax benefits during the 2007 may still do so and have their contributions applied to their campaign pledges. Contact the parish office at 393-3778 to make arrangements for 2007 contributions. More information on this opportunity will be forthcoming.