



**Campaign Commitment Totals So Far!**

As of May 20, gifts and pledge commitments to our Capital Campaign total **\$2,256,080!**

This amount added to the almost \$1.5 million already in the Building Fund brings our fundraising total to just over **\$3.7 million.**

**For information and to pledge visit:**  
[www.stfrancisbelchertown.com](http://www.stfrancisbelchertown.com)

All good things begin with prayer...

**Campaign Prayer**

**Heavenly Father,**  
You are the Architect and Creator of all things Holy, hear our prayers for our new Parish Center.

Send forth Your Spirit that we may humbly be guided by Your Divine Will.

Touch our hearts with true generosity to raise up a space for our community to encounter You outside of Mass, to provide opportunities to walk with each other in faith, and to draw others into relationship with You.

We ask this in Jesus' Name.  
Amen



**The Future Is Up To Us!**

**Where We've Been**

We've come a long way with the planning and preparation of the third and final phase of our goal of transitioning fully to our Jabish Street campus, with the building of our new, and much-needed Parish Center. Through the fiscally responsible oversight of the finance committee, we paid off the Church mortgage early and have our day-to-day operating expenses well in hand. Our steering committee has studied our current parish needs, planned for future growth, and worked with the architects to create a feasible plan for the new Parish Center. And now we are working to raise the estimated \$8 million needed to make the new center a reality.

It should also be noted that this \$8 million goal includes money owed the Diocese of Springfield for our assessed portion of the Diocesan *Beacon of Faith* Capital Campaign and two years for the Annual Catholic Appeal which totals \$337,672.

**Funds On Hand**

Since the final Church mortgage payment in 2022, we have continued to add funds to our existing Building Fund, through individuals continuing to make monthly donations, our various annual fundraising efforts, and generous gifts and bequests. As of January 1, 2026, the balance of this account was \$1.5 million. Since that date, while money continues to be added, funds from this account have been used to pay for existing building repairs, architect fees, and the Guidance in Giving group that was hired to launch our Capital Campaign **Living Our Faith, Building Our Future.**

**More Available Funding**

The Diocese has given us approval to get a bank loan for up to \$1.5 million for this project. While this is good news that will help us to break ground sooner, this money must be paid back with interest, which will likely amount to 20 years of monthly payments between \$9,000-\$10,000. (12 monthly payments of \$10,000, over 20 years equals \$2.4 million in total payments, which is \$900,000 on top of the \$1.5 million borrowed.)

## Capital Campaign Under Guidance in Giving

Based on the \$1.5 million in the Building Fund and the approved \$1.5 million loan amount, we have \$3 million in tangible funding, Guidance in Giving was hired to help us raise the remaining \$5 million needed to reach our goal of \$8 million.

Working with Guidance in Giving and the architects, we put together informational materials for mailings and set up a series of receptions to share the plans for the new Parish Center and seek the necessary financial commitments from our registered parish households through gifts and pledges to be paid over a 3-year period.

Commitment weekend took place on May 2 & 3, with a great response and pledges and gifts continue to come in.

As of May 20, the campaign has raised \$2,256,080 in gifts and pledges.

This leaves \$2,743,920 to be raised to meet the Guidance in Giving capital campaign goal of \$5 million.



## The Future is Up to Us!

The great news is that we are almost halfway to our overall goal of raising \$8 million for our much-needed Parish Center.

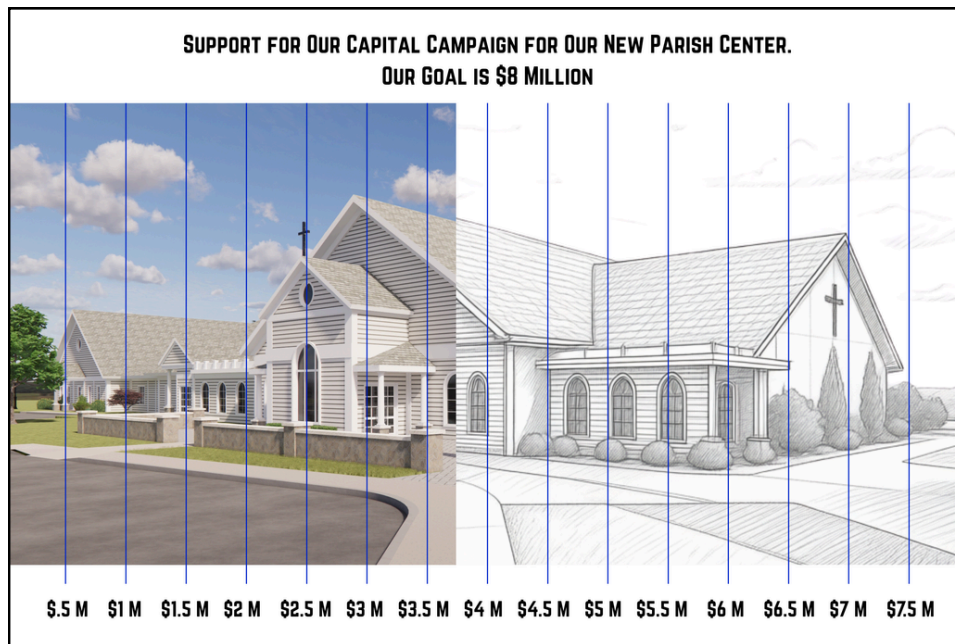
Memorial Day weekend marks the end of the Guidance in Giving group's involvement in our fundraising efforts. However, with \$4.3 million left to raise to meet our overall goal, there is still much work to be done if we are going to build the new Parish Center.

You will continue to hear about the **Living Our Faith, Building Our Future** capital campaign, as we promote this project and share progress updates.

How soon we can move forward with this project is dependent on us funding it. Every gift, every pledge, gets us that much closer to our goal and being able to break ground.

## How You Can Help

- If you have yet to contribute, please consider doing so.
- If you have already made a gift or pledge, we sincerely thank you for your support. Please consider increasing your commitment.
- Share information about this vital parish project with friends and family and encourage them to give to this campaign.



## Where We Currently Stand with Funding

In our effort to be fully transparent in this update, we've shared a lot of numbers. The chart above is being provided as a visual aid to show the commitment of \$2,256,080 from donors to date, since the start of the Guidance in Giving capital campaign, as well as the nearly \$1.5 million in the Building Fund.

These two amounts place us at just over \$3.7 million in committed funding.

Questions? Contact **Jim Phaneuf** at the Parish Office!  
**stfranciscampaign2026@gmail.com** or at **(413) 323-6272**

Scan this QR code to visit our website to learn more about plans for the new Parish Center, and donate online.

