

# BELIEVE, BELONG & Beyond

A CAMPAIGN FOR HOLY TRINITY

Dear Parishioners,

Holy Trinity recently completed a planning study to assess the immediate and future needs of our parish. The parish-wide survey revealed overwhelming support for a fundraising effort, but also raised several questions regarding the new ministry building we are constructing and the combined campaign with the Archdiocese. In an effort to address these concerns, our parish leaders have responded to some of the most frequently asked questions.

I hope the answers given will provide clarity as we prepare to launch our capital campaign. Your understanding and support are critical to our success.

Sincerely,



Msgr. Mike Yarbrough, Pastor



Fr. Daniel Villarreal, Parochial Vicar

## **Q: Why are we conducting a capital campaign?**

**A:** We are conducting a capital campaign to build a ministry building, add youth outreach ministries and provide much needed parking. Just like most of us cannot purchase a new house with a single paycheck, neither can we just write a check to build a new ministry building. Every Holy Trinity family will be asked to make a sacrificial gift to the *Believe, Belong and Beyond* campaign. We want this to be a community effort. This is our gift to future parishioners.

## **Q: Why are we starting a campaign at the same time as the Archdiocese of San Antonio?**

**A:** A combined campaign allows us to raise money for our parish needs alongside the needs of the Archdiocese. As part of the Archdiocese's, *On the Way - ¡Andale!* Campaign, Holy Trinity is being asked to donate \$2.3 million to that effort.

## **Q: Why must our parish participate in the Archdiocese Capital Campaign?**

**A:** We are giving to the Archdiocese campaign because we, as Catholics, want to share God's

word and grace with our neighbors. Most of the money raised by the Archdiocese's campaign will go to strengthen and establish new parishes, fund Catholic Charities outreach programs and renovate Catholic schools. We are proud to participate in the *On the Way - ¡Andale!* Campaign.

## **Q: What does the future of Holy Trinity look like?**

**A:** The future of Holy Trinity is bright. As families fill out the surrounding neighborhoods our parish continues to grow. The expanded campus boundaries and Ministry Building will serve our needs well into the future. We will take care of what we have and not pass today's maintenance, and a larger bill, onto our children and grandchildren. We will demonstrate the stewardship expected of us as Catholics and keep in mind that everything we have is a gift from God.

## **Q: Why is the ministry building plan so bold?**

**A:** The ministry building plans are a best-case scenario for the new building. The campaign will determine the actual size and features of the building. Parish leaders have always been responsible with parishioners' donations. That will not change. This campaign is for the future of Holy Trinity. We won't compromise that future by spending and borrowing irresponsibly.

## **Q: I'm more concerned about debt. How much will we owe for the ministry building?**

**A:** How much we spend on the new building depends on how much we can raise during the *Believe, Belong and Beyond* Capital Campaign. We will continue to be good stewards with campaign funds and build a ministry building designed to serve our needs, now and in the future, not bury Holy Trinity in debt.

## **Q: Is it alright to transfer my weekly offertory to the campaign?**

**A:** A contribution or pledge to the *Believe, Belong and Beyond* campaign should be above and beyond your normal weekly donation. We are asking everyone to consider a sacrificial gift to the campaign but we still have bills to pay every month, so it is important that the weekly offertory remain at or above the current level.

## **Q: How will we be able to accomplish all we're asked to do?**

**A:** Holy Trinity had humble beginnings. Founded in 1987, Holy Trinity was nothing more than a patch of land and potential. Through hard work and faith in God the founding parishioners built a church and parish offices, then a faith formation building. Eventually the church was expanded, and an administration building and banquet hall were added. We owe a lot to those founding families, many of whom still attend Mass at Holy Trinity. But our greatest debt to those founding families

may be showing us that anything is possible if you give generously and have faith in God.

## **Q: This is not the right time to be going into a campaign, why can't we do this later?**

**A:** There are several factors to consider including historically low interest rates, future construction costs and potential property taxes are just a few. Take a close look at the Holy Trinity campus, the founding parishioners and those who came later could have delayed projects while they waited for the right time to build, or scaled back the size and beauty of the buildings to minimize costs but they didn't. Holy Trinity is Holy Trinity because of the vision of the parishioners, their sacrifice and faith in God. They didn't have to build such a beautiful church, they chose to build it. They wanted to show north San Antonio the permanence of the Catholic Church in this area and pass a secure future onto future generations.

## **Q: Don't we have other, more pressing needs?**

**A:** The planning study did reveal several other projects that Holy Trinity parishioners would support. Many of those are a part of this project.

## **Q: Why should I/we consider a pledge to the capital campaign?**

**A:** Throughout the Bible we are reminded that we have been called by our Lord to build His Kingdom on earth.

*"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."* 1 CORINTHIANS 15:58.

Paying for the Ministry Building does not fall on the shoulders of a few families. It is the responsibility of all the people of Holy Trinity to hear God's call and to grow His ministry. The obligation rests with everyone to do their part to raise the money needed. We all need to identify and make sacrificial, meaningful donations to ensure the *Believe, Belong and Beyond* campaign is a success.

## **Q: Is my gift tax deductible?**

**A:** Yes, all gifts to Holy Trinity are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Application of the law varies with individual circumstances. Donors with specific questions regarding tax deductibility should contact their attorney or financial advisor.

## **Q: What does Texas state law have to do with our Ministry Building?**

**A:** Texas state law requires us to build on our recently purchased land by 2021 in order to keep our property tax-exempt status.