

**ENDING THE NEW CHURCH
PROJECT AND
UNWINDING THE TO BUILD
CHURCH CAMPAIGN**



QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

September 12, 2022

As announced at the 2022 State of the Parish town hall meeting on July 30, 2022, the Parish is ending the New Church Project. Every donor to the 2000 and 2006 To Build Church capital campaigns will have an opportunity to either (1) repurpose their donated funds to support the parish's revised master plan or (2) reclaim their original donation amount.

On August 17, 2022, we mailed a letter to donors describing the reasons for ending the New Church Project. Included with this letter was a Donor Request Form to be returned to the Parish Office with the donor's decision to repurpose or reclaim their donation(s).

We understand you may have additional questions. We hope the following questions and answers are helpful.

- 1. *How much was donated to the To Build Church capital campaigns?***
The total donations to the New Church Project including the To Build Church capital campaigns in 2000 and 2006 are \$6,995,533.
- 2. *Will any project costs be deducted from my repurposing of reclaiming?***
No, all donors will be allowed to repurpose or reclaim the full amount of their original donations, dollar for dollar.
- 3. *Were monies donated to the To Build Church Campaigns used by the Parish for any other purposes?***
No, all To Build Church funds are held in separate restricted accounts.
- 4. *What if I did not receive a letter regarding my donation?***
Please contact the Parish Office to request the information.
- 5. *What if the donor does not return the Donor Response Form?***
If a donor does not return the Donor Response Form sent to them with the August 17, 2002, letter the Parish will follow up with them via a phone call.

6. *What will happen if the donor cannot be contacted?*

Further efforts will be undertaken to locate all donors using a variety of resources and under the direction of the Diocese of Oakland. After these efforts have been exhausted unclaimed donations will be handled in accordance with laws and regulations.

7. *What if the amount reported for my donations does not match what I believe I gave?*

All efforts will be made to clarify any discrepancies. If you believe there is a discrepancy, please contact Parish Business Manager Gina Mehta at 510-656-2364 or gmehta@saintjosephmsj.org. You will need to provide documentation of your donations for review.

8. *What happens to the cash donations that I placed in a collection basket without an envelope?*

A gift of cash (i.e., currency in the form of bills and coins) without an envelope identifying the donor was recorded as an anonymous gift and cannot be reclaimed.

9. *How do I know what my money will be used for if I repurpose it?*

The first priority for repurposed funds will be renovation of our existing church. The renovation will be fully funded before repurposed funds are used for any other projects.

10. *What other projects might be funded with the repurposed monies?*

The revised Parish master plan identifies other facility needs including Ministry House 1, Carriage House renovation, a new sports field, and completing the building connection between the Mission and museum. Projects in the Parish master plan will be prioritized, and none will begin until funding is available. You can find more information at <https://www.saintjosephmsj.org/facilities/parish-master-plan/>.

11. *Can I specify what facility projects my repurposed funds are used for?*

There are many projects that will benefit from the funds you may repurpose. Care has been given to prioritize the most pressing needs of the community for our facilities. We will honor donor requests where possible. However, we are unable to accept the repurposing of donations to projects not included in the Parish master plan.

12. *How can I reclaim the money that I donated?*

You can reclaim the money donated by completing the Donor Request Form and returning it to the Parish office.

13. *Can I reclaim funds donated by deceased family members?*

If a donor is deceased, efforts will be made to contact the next of kin. Decisions will be made based on the terms of the donor's estate. Unclaimed funds will be handled in accordance with laws and regulations. Any request to reclaim funds donated by a deceased relative will be referred to the legal department at the Diocese of Oakland.

14. Why am I not getting interest on my reclaimed funds?

There were costs expended in planning and design for the New Church Project that were greater than interest earned on the funds. Therefore, no interest will be added to reclaimed donations.

15. If I reclaim the money donated, will I have to pay taxes on it?

If you claimed a tax deduction for your original donation you should consult your tax professional about any tax consequences.

16. How long will it take for me to receive funds to be returned to me?

We are anticipating the process to take approximately 6 to 8 weeks.

17. Can I ask the church to issue my reclaimed donation check to any other charitable organizations or entities?

No. We can only issue the check directly to the donor.