



Who is making the decisions on the capital campaign and building project?

A team of campaign volunteers, Finance Council members, parish staff members, and our campaign consultants work with Fr. Chuck to make capital campaign decisions together.

Decisions regarding the design of the church and rectory renovation project are discussed and vetted by the Property Committee and Pastoral Council, as well as invited leaders from other parish councils. The Diocese of Austin must give final design approval before construction begins.

Is Father Chuck going to be here for the entire time the project is going on?

Father Chuck feels very strongly that he should be here for the duration of the church renovation project. He knows the strengths and weaknesses of this project and is determined to pursue it to the end. That said, if the Paulist Fathers decide the need is greater somewhere else, Father Chuck will move to that need, and we will work with the Paulist pastor that is named to St. Austin to continue forward with this renovation.

Has the Diocese of Austin approved this project?

The Finance Council, Property Committee, Fr. Chuck, and members of the parish staff have all been in constant communication with the appropriate offices of the Diocese of Austin. The Facilities Office has been and will continue to be involved in each stage of the façade study, planning and design. Permission to move forward with the *Faithful to Our Mission* Capital Campaign was granted by the Finance Office and Stewardship and Development Office in October 2014. Deacon Ron Walker, of the Legal Services Office, and Vicar General, Very Rev. Daniel E. Garcia, have also been involved in discussions of both the renovation and the capital campaign.

Who is doing the construction work for the buildings?

A contractor has not yet been chosen to lead construction. At the suggestion of the Diocese of Austin, we have hired a construction manager-at-risk to assist us with the planning and development process.

How did you arrive at the Faithful to Our Mission Capital Campaign ask amounts?

Our campaign management team assisted us with arriving at the gift request amounts using several inputs. We used annual giving amounts, previous campaign contributions, and voluntary inputs taken from the Campaign Planning Study. In addition, senior campaign leadership and development professionals assisted when we were missing data points for parishioners.

Why don't we just ask every parishioner to make an equal gift to reach our goal?

While every family is being asked to make a gift, sacrificial amounts differ for each and every family. We never want a family struggle to make ends meet due to a pledge, and so each family is asked to give according to their means. We pray that all hear and respond accordingly.

Are university students going to be asked to donate?

Anyone who comes in the door to St. Austin Catholic Parish will be asked to donate to the campaign. This includes university students, parents and alumni. We will also be utilizing digital media to reach these constituencies in their homes throughout the world.

Are we asking any foundations or charities for assistance with our campaign?

Grant writing is included in our contract with the Steier Group. The Steier Group has served eight parishes in our diocese as well as hundreds more throughout the country, and their team is helping us identify foundations that have any history of giving to Catholic parishes in the United States. There are several known family foundations that give regularly to Texas parishes, and we will be asking for their support. In addition, we are seeking out foundations that have ties to or have supported the University of Texas and that have a Catholic background or have attended St. Austin. Please let us know if you have any suggestions by emailing CapitalCampaign@staustin.org!

What happens if we don't raise enough money?

While campaign leadership feels certain that this will not be the case because the parishioners of St. Austin have been so generous with their time, talent and treasure in the past, we will use whatever money we raise toward our campaign priorities, even if our financial goals are not met.

How much will this campaign cost us?

Our campaign consultants at the Steier Group are contracted at a flat fee plus expenses that will total approximately \$150,000. The Diocese of Austin assesses a cathedraticum based on a percentage of total capital campaign income, so this number is difficult to predict. In the past, the Diocese of Austin has allowed parishes to select a 12-month period during which any contributions collected are exempt from the cathedraticum. Parish leadership determines this period of exemption and will monitor the progress of the campaign and determine the most advantageous exemption period.

How is the school affected by this campaign?

Will it get any of the proceeds from the campaign?

St. Austin Catholic School is not raising money through the *Faithful to Our Mission* campaign. The school, as well as the entire parish, will be better off financially by lowering the debt owed by the parish, which will result in an improved overall budget and allow more of our offertory collection to be used for all the parish's ministries, all of which have been negatively impacted by the debt owed on the garage over the years. This is why the debt reduction portion of our campaign is an important consideration.

What role does the University Catholic Center play in this campaign?

The UCC will have a minimal role in St. Austin's campaign. Currently that consists of sharing alumni data, such as last known addresses of UT graduates (Exes), and general Paulist support for the campaign.

Who can I talk to if I have concerns about the campaign?

Fr. Chuck has formed a Good Shepherd Committee whose purpose is to help address pastoral concerns and to consistently pray for the success of our capital campaign and church renovation project. Members of this committee are active parishioners from varying backgrounds: JL Brown, Susan Cimino, Nancy Jones, Patrick Keel, Laurie Kertz, Kathleen Powers, Hugh Randolph, Martha Schroeder. You can reach the committee via email at GoodShepherd@staustin.org, and feel free to reach out to them when you see them at Mass.

If you have questions, suggestions or concerns about our renovation plans, you may also email the Property Committee at PropertyCommittee@staustin.org. Capital campaign leadership can be reached at CapitalCampaign@staustin.org or by calling the parish office. Fr. Chuck can be reached via email at CKullmann@staustin.org.

If you have questions regarding this information, please contact CapitalCampaign@staustin.org.

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