

Expansion Project Frequently Asked Questions

Are gifts to the Expansion Project tax deductible?

Yes. This is a project of St. Ignatius of Antioch parish. Our parish is part of the Oakland Diocese which is a 501(c)3 organization. All gifts to the Expansion Project are tax deductible. Please consult with your tax advisor for more information pertaining to your own tax situation.

What is the total estimated cost for this project?

The total estimated cost of the Expansion Project is \$1,647,381. This includes a construction budget estimate of \$1,433,983 from Oliver Construction, a \$70,000 soft cost budget for architect, city and engineering fees and an additional 10 percent contingency budget of \$143,398.

How much are we trying to raise?

As of October 31, 2019, the funding shortfall is \$567,314. The goal of the Expansion Project Campaign is to eliminate the shortfall prior to meeting with the Diocese of Oakland in January 2020. The funding shortfall can be eliminated with one-time cash gifts and verifiable pledges for cash gifts over the pledge period.

Pledges do not have to be fulfilled prior to the meeting with the diocese.

Why do we need to do this now?

Construction costs continue to increase and outpace our ability to raise adequate funds. The current project is doable! The effort to expand the hall has been a priority for many years.

This is not an extravagant project and significant effort has been put forth to keep costs at an achievable level. Over \$500,000 in design changes and compromises have already been incorporated into the project

Our kitchen facility is inadequate. Much of the equipment was second hand when acquired more than 20 years ago and is increasingly difficult to maintain.

More importantly, the existing kitchen does not meet current food safety and food handling regulations.

What happens if the excess funds are raised?

Numerous compromises were made in the Project's designs. If additional funds are raised, they will be used to address some of the compromises, including hall flooring and lighting upgrades.

Why should I consider making a pledge versus a one-time gift?

While a one-time gift will rapidly build our available fund balance before the anticipated late January 2020 meeting with the Diocese, a pledge, which is a gift made over time, allows you to bridge the gap between the support you feel and the practical realities of daily life. It is the indication of your intentions over a period of time. **Pledges are welcome.**

How much is each person or family supposed to give?

Every registered household is being asked to make a one-time gift or a pledge. We seek equal sacrifice, not equal gifts from parishioners. What each person or family gives calls for individual discernment.

If I choose to make a one-time gift, when is the payment due?

One-time gift donors are asked to fulfill their gift as soon as practical.

If I choose to pledge, when are the payments due?

Pledge donors may choose to fulfill their pledge over a one-year, two-year or three-year period, whichever time period works best for them. Each donor determines the start date when completing the pledge form.

How will the pledges be paid?

You can pay with cash, checks, EFT or credit card. EFT is encouraged. For those who prefer to donate by check, an Expansion Project envelope will be included with all contribution envelope packages beginning in January. These envelopes may be deposited with the regular Sunday collection and will be counted separately to ensure your gift is applied to the Expansion Project.

Why do we need to fill out a pledge form and sign it?

This is for our parish records. It will also be very useful when we meet with the Diocese to demonstrate our community's commitment to this project. A pledge form is not a legally binding document.

How should my support for this campaign affect my regular Sunday giving?

Not at all! Please do not divert your regular contributions to the Sunday collection to this campaign. The Sunday collection is essential to the on-going mission of the St. Ignatius of Antioch. This campaign is a wholly separate undertaking.

Once construction commences, how long will it take to complete?

The contractor has estimated that this is a 6 to 8 month project, start to finish. The start date is contingent on diocesan approval and completion is subject to the contractor's job schedule.

Will the parish hall be available during construction?

No. The parish hall and the area of the existing patio will be a hard hat area and unavailable during most of the construction period.

Can I support this effort with a gift of stock or bonds?

Yes. Next to cash, this is the most widely used gift vehicle. To initiate this gift, advise your broker and contact the parish office for instructions. There are tax benefits to giving stocks or bonds since the appreciation in value will not be taxed. Please consult with your tax advisor.

My employer has a Matching Gifts Program. Does this campaign qualify?

Many companies will match donations made by employees to qualifying non-profit organizations. As part of the Diocese of Oakland, St. Ignatius of Antioch is a 501(c)3 organization. Please check with your employer to see if the Expansion Project would qualify for a matching gift from your company. Contact the parish office if you need written confirmation of our tax exempt status.

Can I support this effort with my IRA Distribution?

If you are a traditional IRA account holder subject to the required minimum distribution (RMD) rules, you can choose to donate the RMD to St. Ignatius of Antioch. If the contribution is \$100,000 or less—and is rolled out of the IRA and directly to the charity—you won't have to pay taxes on the RMD. Please consult with your tax advisor.

Who do I contact if I have questions or need additional information?

Contact the parish office (925.778.0768) and request that a member of the Expansion Committee contact you. Please leave your name, your telephone number and the best time to reach you.