

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **What if we raise more than the \$1.7 million goal?**

In 2001, we came up with a master plan to accommodate the growing needs of our vibrant community. All funds over our \$1.7 million goal will go into a special account to build the next phase of our master plan, which is the Parish Center. As you know, our operational fund has been affected. Once the debt is retired, the parish budget currently applied to service our debt (\$120,000) will be used to increase our ministries and staff hours and salaries.

## **What will happen if we do not raise the \$1.7 million?**

We will use the money raised to service the principal of the debt. However, we are confident and anticipate not only reaching our goal but exceeding it with the generosity of the 2500+ families in the parish and school.

## **Why are families asked for pledges?**

We are asking for pledges instead of one-time gifts because a pledge allows a family to make a larger contribution over a longer period of time. Of course, we are grateful for all sacrifices, whether they are pledges or one-time gifts. Our most important goal is 100% participation from our families. We hope that you will make a contribution to our parish as a sacrificial gift to God in gratitude for the many gifts He gives us.

## **Does our capital campaign include alternative fundraisers?**

At this time, we are asking every family in our parish and school to prayerfully consider a personal gift in thanksgiving for all the blessings God bestowed upon us. If all the members of our community give a portion of what they have to the good of all, we will raise the necessary funds to pay the parish debt. However, we will graciously accept gifts or proceeds to the debt reduction from parish groups.

## **Will we be contacting new families?**

As families register at St. Anthony or enroll at the school, they will be informed of the campaign and asked to participate. We want every family who call St. Anthony their spiritual home to be informed about our future plans.

## **If we have over 2500 families at St. Anthony, why don't we all just give \$680 to exceed our \$1.7 million goal?**

Each family's financial situation is different. A \$680 pledge to some is MORE of a sacrifice than a \$10,000 pledge is to others. Not all families will participate in this fundraiser, no matter how worthy the cause. It is up to each family to reflect on their blessings and make a pledge that reflects their own gratitude. We trust our Lord will inspire generosity. Several families have already given \$10,000 or more to the campaign.

## **Do we pay a percentage or a flat fee to the company running our campaign?**

St. Anthony Parish pays a flat fee based on the number of weeks of service to Guidance In Giving, Inc. Guidance In Giving, who conducted the Feasibility Study conducted this fall, is a member of the International Catholic Stewardship Conference (ICSC) and is highly recommended by the Archdiocese of Seattle. Since we are a stewardship parish, Guidance In Giving gave St. Anthony a 10% reduction on our fee.

**Do I need to make a down payment and when will my pledge payment start?**

Although we encourage a 10% down payment when your pledge is made, it is not required. The parish office will begin redeeming pledges in May 2008. Based on the payment schedule requested, pledge reminders will be sent to any family who is not using a credit or debit card or having funds electronically transferred (EFT). Please use the Debt Reduction envelope included in your monthly church envelope packet to redeem your pledge. Families wishing to use EFT, credit or debit cards will have funds deducted on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month starting May 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Can matching funds be used in this campaign?**

All companies have different criterion for their matching funds programs. We realize some companies cannot match gifts given to a church debt campaign. However, we encourage our parishioners to contact the Human Resource Department of their company and ask for the necessary forms to apply for these funds.

**Can parishioners use the gym?**

Yes. Like any other facility of our parish, parishioners may use the gym for different activities, for instance as do the parish's men's basketball teams and the parish Catholic Youth Organization (CYO), which is a program for the children of the parish. Ideas for and groups wishing to use it during the summer months are encouraged to call the Parish Ministry Center at (425) 255-3132.