



FAITH IN OUR FUTURE



CASE FOR SUPPORT

HISTORY OF ST. JOSEPH

Nearly one hundred and fifty (150) years ago, Catholics in Brazos County began attending church services held by traveling priests from the Diocese of Galveston. Many of the Masses were offered in private homes in various locations around the county. In 1866, the Industrial Revolution brought the railroad to the Bryan community and a church was erected. Later destroyed by fire in 1871, Mass was celebrated in a store building until a site for a new parish could be found.

An outbreak of yellow fever in Galveston led to the influx of several young students studying for the priesthood into Bryan. This influx plus the continued rapid growth of Catholics in the area prompted the founding of St. Joseph Parish of Bryan in 1873. Led by Father C. Clair (b. 1/15/1845 in Roanne, Loirs, France), the new parish dedicated its first church in 1878. The present location of St. Joseph Catholic Church is the original site of the first church building purchased for \$500.

With committed leadership from its pastors such as Monsignor J. B. Gleissner who served the parish for nearly 50 years, the community soon shifted its focus to education. Under the leadership of Father Joseph Pelnar, the first parochial school was established in 1894. Students in the school were given a well-rounded faith based education led by both the Ursuline Sisters and the Sisters of the Incarnate Word. Continued growth in the Bryan community prompted the need for the building of a new church and additions to the parochial school. The present structure at the intersection of East 26th Street and Preston was dedicated in 1960.

As the community continued to expand over the years, St. Joseph School System also expanded with additional classroom space. The present School System spans three campuses for students from six (6) weeks of age at its Eagle's Nest through twelfth (12th) grade at the High School. St. Joseph Catholic School provides an academic curriculum solidly based in the skills and competencies needed to prepare the students to take their place in a changing and challenging society. Committed to maintaining small class sizes and low teacher-student ratios, our highly-qualified faculty has also proven their dedication and passion to furthering the St. Joseph to be recognized as the regional Catholic school in the Brazos Valley.

MISSION OF ST. JOSEPH

St. Joseph Catholic School was established to provide a Christian environment for students, staff, and faculty alike that promotes both excellence in education and a spiritual faith formation. As a pastoral instrument of the Church, we intend to respond to the needs of the whole person and to support the spiritual, intellectual, physical, and social development of each student.

It is also our intention to challenge the students to work to the best of their abilities and to live as Christian examples of faith to one another and to the extended community.

We will strive to explore and initiate innovations in education and in our faith, which will prepare the students to take their place as leaders in a changing and challenging society.

FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

*“The future of the Church belongs to the younger generation...
Christ expects great things from young people.” -His Holiness John Paul II*

With a rich past providing a solid foundation for all of our good works of today and tomorrow, together, our community must ensure that we continue to build and strengthen upon all the blessings that have been given to us. ***Faith in Our Future*** is the capital campaign for the students, our future generation, and their families of the St. Joseph Catholic School System. The campaign will raise critically needed funds for the School System to ensure future generations will have the resources they need to continue to excel in education and spiritual faith formation. Over the past year, the student body population has increased over eleven (11%) from five hundred seventy-three (573) students to six hundred thirty-nine (639). As we look forward to comparable growth in the future, we aim to be superior in all areas- spiritually, mentally, and physically.

St. Joseph seeks to be a part of the capital campaign initiatives underway through the Diocese of Austin. The combined campaign will present the necessary improvements for St. Joseph to continue to meet the educational needs of the Catholic families in the Bryan/College Station community. With over 600 students currently enrolled, from six (6) weeks of age through twelfth (12th) grade, St. Joseph is in need of renovations and additions of its classroom space, cafeteria, and auditorium/gym facilities. The goal of ***Faith in Our Future*** is to involve every parent, parishioner, and friend in assisting us to raise a \$3.5 million project goal to meet the needs of our growing School System.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Construction of Multi-purpose Center

Presently, the elementary school does not have an on-site multi-purpose center available for student use throughout the school day. The nearest facility involves walking over to the St. Joseph Parish Activity Center (PAC), which is adjacent to the church on the next street, or being bussed to the high school facility. The inclusion of an on-site multi-purpose center would allow the School to continue its rich tradition of “Educating the mind, body, and spirit” through the scheduling of such activities as athletic competitions, concerts, guest speakers, and other functions.



This independence at the elementary school level gives leverage in scheduling educational functions without sharing space at other facilities. The multi-purpose center with its numerous functions, will also serve as a Physical Education (PE) facility for the students- “Educating the...body...” Additionally, the multi-purpose center would help with the needs of our after-school care program, which presently uses several locations including a portable building and the present gym, which is also shared after 3 pm.

Construction of New Entrance to School (See Cover)

The present entrance, located along Travis Street, presents little available side street parking for parents and other visitors to the School. The narrow one-way street only allows for single-lane pick up resulting in traffic congestion during pick-up and drop-off times. This situation further creates an unsafe element for young children and families crossing the street amongst moving traffic. Furthermore, the entrance on Travis Street also accommodates parking and traffic of the private homes located on the street. The proposed new entrance would direct traffic into a circular driveway to further alleviate traffic congestion and also improve parking needs for the private homes.

Renovation of School Cafeteria

Our Elementary School cafeteria and kitchen, which is over 50 years old, presents inadequate spacing and ventilation for the students and is in need of overall renovation. Much of the equipment in the cafeteria is not functional in order to properly prepare meals for the students. The existing space further proves inadequate as it only accommodates two grade levels at any given time. The plan is to relocate the cafeteria to the present gymnasium, which is adjacent to the current location. The increase in size would better accommodate our present and future scheduling needs as our student body continues to grow.

Construction of Two Kindergarten Classrooms and Religious Education Center

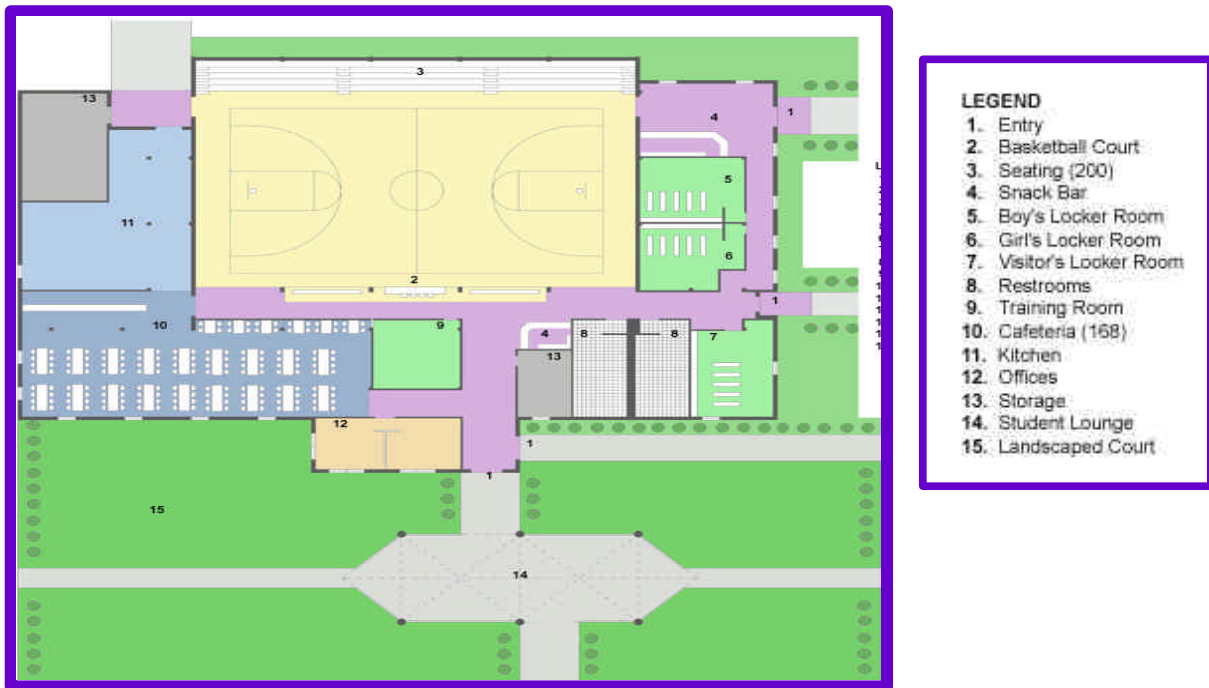
Despite being assigned to the largest rooms presently available in the Elementary School, the existing kindergarten classrooms do not provide enough accommodation for our students, the needed furniture and activity space. To plan for future growth as St. Joseph continues along its pace to be the regional Catholic school in the Brazos Valley, we will need to relocate the kindergarteners to a space that is overall more conducive to their learning-physically, mentally, and spiritually. Presently located at the base of the staircases at both ends of the school hallway, the kindergarteners are often caught in the cross-flow of the older students who transition at various times during the school day. The proposed kindergarten classroom area will help keep the younger students safer in a more contained area.

Additionally, the current Religious Education (RE) office is on the second floor of the elementary school. The current space does not provide any meeting or training area for the RE staff. The proposed plan to place the Religious Education Center on the second floor of the new addition will improve access and visibility to the many, which rely on the Center for faith guidance, formation, and training.

“The education of children and young people continues to be of fundamental importance in the Church’s mission and for civil society itself.”

– His Holiness John Paul II

HIGH SCHOOL



Renovation of High School Gymnasium and Cafeteria

The cafeteria space for the middle and high school students has proven inadequate for the growing student population. Presently the cafeteria is only able to comfortably accommodate approximately ninety (90) students during lunchtime. By extending an interior wall into the present foyer area, the seating capacity will be increased to almost one hundred and sixty (160). The removal of another interior wall in the gymnasium will also greatly improve seating at home games for our parents and visitors. Presently the seating only has capacity for about forty-five (45) and is not stable. The removal of the wall will provide permanent seating for roughly two hundred and twenty-five (225) during athletic competitions, school assemblies, guest speaker presentations, and other school-related purposes.

Construction of Boy's and Girl's Coach's Offices

The increase of seating for the cafeteria will displace the present coach's offices. The current foyer space is not utilized to its fullest potential. The foyer area will be used to relocate the offices of the Boy's and Girl's coaches to a more visible and accessible location for students and parents.

Construction of Visitor's Locker Room

While the gym has locker rooms for our boy's and girl's teams, there is no designated space for visiting teams. The space in the gym will allow for the addition of an additional locker room, which will be used by visiting teams.

Construction of Snack Bar

A designated snack bar for use during events held in the gym will alleviate the present burden placed on the cafeteria. The cafeteria is used as a snack bar resulting in the misuse of some kitchen equipment and space. A snack bar designated solely for these purposes will give opportunity for an increase in the availability of snacks for sale and present possible fundraising options for student and parent clubs.

Student Plaza

While at school, students usually congregate either in the foyer area of the gymnasium or in the area in between the gym and main building. An area for this purpose located in between the gym and main building will give the students a common area to reflect on school and social happenings. The area will be landscaped featuring green grass, plants, and benches to promote a more relaxing communal environment.

OUTDOOR ATHLETIC COMPLEX

Through the generosity of a St. Joseph parishioner who has donated approximately 55 acres of land near Lake Bryan, we have an opportunity to build an outdoor athletic complex for our students and their families. This complex is critical for helping to continue our rich tradition of "Educating the mind, body, and spirit..." through athletic competitions. The complex will feature state-of-the-art facilities for:

- ***Football/ Soccer,***
- ***Baseball, and***
- ***Softball.***

The construction of an outdoor athletic complex presents both middle and high schools the opportunity to participate in a full athletic program with a designated outdoor athletic facility. Currently, the school rents facilities throughout the Bryan/ College Station community, in which to play home games. For outdoor



practices, a nearby residential lot is used but proves too small for a full-scale practice. Possessing our own athletic complex would not only increase the quality of the athletic program and provide adequate space for athletic practices and competitions for the coaches and students, but also foster a sense of pride, enabling our students to compete to the best of their abilities-mind, body, and spirit. The addition of a tranquil fitness trail for use by all in the St. Joseph community is also a proposed component of the outdoor complex.

DIOCESAN CAMPAIGN NEEDS

In addition to our community needs, the **Our Faith ~ Our Legacy** diocesan-wide capital campaign is being conducted to address the most pressing needs of the Diocese of Austin and to make a major impact in the lives of our brothers and sisters throughout Central Texas. This is a time of opportunity for the Diocese to reach out to more people in more ways than ever before with a renewed commitment and responsibility to the ministry and teachings of God.

Every parish in the Diocese of Austin is participating in the campaign effort this year in an effort to raise a minimum of \$45 million in pledged support. St. Joseph is one of two parishes who have requested and received permission to combine the diocesan campaign with a larger immediate need for our parish. The information provided on this page of our brochure outlines the needs which will be addressed through the **Our Faith ~ Our Legacy** initiative.

- **Clergy Formation-** In response to a rapidly growing population, the Diocese of Austin must ensure that it has trained a well-rounded pastoral staff to serve its parishioners. These funds will assist in addressing *Seminarian Education and Religious Formation, Discernment Houses, and Permanent Diaconate Education and Formation.*
- **Priest Retirement-** With a high average age and an enormous number of priests preparing to retire, there is a pressing need to provide for these men who have so faithfully served the local Church. This area focuses on providing a *Pension Plan and Medical Benefits Fund* and the *Pope John Paul II Home for Priests.*
- **Catholic Education and Formation-** Through *Religious Education and Youth Ministry*, families, parishes, innumerable volunteers and the diocese all work together to ensure that it is a high priority. In order to *Strengthen Our Catholic Schools*, we must find ways to maintain a strong commitment to faith formation and high academic standards while keeping Catholic education affordable for a growing population. While strengthening our existing schools, the Diocese of Austin with its growing population must

also look to invest in new Catholic schools through the *Future Schools Fund*. The diocese is also committed to *Catholic Campus Ministry* for all students at the University of Texas, Texas A&M, Texas State, and Baylor. Through the diocesan campaign, the Diocese will endow the position of diocesan Campus Ministry Coordinator to work with local parishes and existing student centers to engage Catholic students on campuses large and small.

- **Catholic Charities-** Catholic Charities is dedicated to serving children, immigrants, older adults, families and communities through effective programs. A recently completed diocesan-wide community assessment showed a great need for developing and expanding services in unserved or underserved parts of our diocese. To address specific needs by area, Catholic Charities will establish up to five satellite offices in locations such as Lampasas, Temple, Waco, Bryan and San Marcos.
- **2006 Catholic Services Appeal-** While our campaign will address special needs and significantly improve our ability to serve the growing population of Central Texas, operational support is still necessary for the many programs and services that take place. To minimize confusion and fund raising costs, there will not be a separate effort for the 2006 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA). Rather, this important effort will be made part of the overall diocesan campaign. The Catholic Services Appeal will return to its usual form in 2007.

All parishes in the diocese are participating in this campaign in 2006. Each parish has a target that is based on the offertory collection for fiscal year 2004/2005 and is payable over a five-year period. St. Joseph's target for the diocesan campaign is approximately \$1,000,000. This target will be integrated into the ***Faith in Our Future*** campaign without the expense or effort of conducting a separate campaign.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

“Whatever we give up for God will be recompensed one hundred times as much in this world and life everlasting in the world to come.” – Mark 10:29

Faith in Our Future gives donors- parents, parishioners, and friends- an opportunity to leave a legacy for future generations, through a sacrificial gift to the campaign. Gifts are accepted in a variety of forms with an emphasis on unrestricted gifts, which permit immediate allocation of funds to support identified campaign needs. Gifts can also be restricted for a specific campaign need such as Elementary School Multi-Purpose Center or Diocesan Campaign Needs. All gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

PLEDGES

Pledges payable over a five-year period allow donors to consider more substantial commitments than are possible with one-time cash gifts. Donors who pledge may determine payment schedules to meet their own charitable or tax needs. These gifts can be made in the form of cash, check, or electronic funds transfer (EFT).

GIFTS OF APPRECIATED SECURITIES (STOCKS OR BONDS)

Gifts of appreciated securities to the ***Faith in Our Future*** campaign can be a source of significant tax benefit to the donor. St. Joseph will sell a gift of stock and the value of the gift will be determined at the time of transfer. The donor can deduct the fair market value as a charitable gift and avoid capital gains tax on the appreciation.

GIFTS OF LIFE INSURANCE

A donor who is not able to make an immediate, cash gift may consider naming St. Joseph as a sole and irrevocable owner and beneficiary of a life insurance policy. The market value (usually the cash surrender value) of the policy is deductible as a charitable gift and will assist in overall campaign efforts.

EMPLOYER MATCHING GIFTS

If your company has a matching gift program, you may be able to “double, or even triple, the impact” of your gift by requesting a matching gift form from your company and including it with your pledge card.

GIFTS-IN-KIND

The commitments of services and equipment to advance the goals and objectives of Faith in Our Future are also welcomed.

SUMMARY OF CASE ELEMENTS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	\$ 1,700,000
Construction of a Multi-purpose Center	
Construction of a New Entrance to School	
Renovation of School Cafeteria	
Construction of Two Kindergarten Classrooms and Religious Education Center	
HIGH SCHOOL	\$ 500,000
Renovation of High School Gymnasium and Cafeteria	
Construction of Boy's and Girl's Coach's Offices	
Construction of Visitor's Locker Room	
Construction of Snack Bar	
Student Plaza	
OUTDOOR ATHLETIC COMPLEX	\$ 300,000
Football Stadium/ Soccer Field	
Baseball Field	
Softball Field	
DIOCESAN CAMPAIGN NEEDS	\$ 1,000,000
TOTAL	\$ 3,500,000