



Frequently Asked Questions

What happened to the 2004 Master Plan and the capital campaign?

With the diocesan bankruptcy, St. Clare could not guarantee that donations and pledges would go to fund the St. Clare Master Plan. Consequently, we stopped fundraising and returned half of the donations. The rest was used, with the permission of the donors, to pay expenses that had already been incurred.

Why are we doing the Next Generation Campaign rather than a new capital campaign? Why now?

The Master Plan called for a building to be built between the church and the school, plus maintenance and needed infrastructure repairs. After a period of information gathering and discernment, the Parish leadership concluded that we could not successfully launch a \$3M capital campaign that included new building construction in the current economy. Parish leadership is committed to being good stewards of our existing structures and has developed the Next Generation Campaign.

Our campus needs our attention now. We would like to repair, restore and renew our campus in time for the celebration of St. Clare's 100th anniversary in 2013, giving back to current and future families what has so generously and freely been given to us.

Are the needs of the Master Plan and the Next Generation Campaign the same?

The focus of the Next Generation Campaign is to repair, restore and renew our current St. Clare campus, facilities and infrastructure. The Next Generation Campaign should not conflict with a future Master Plan.

Why are there two different phases?

Phases were determined by urgency. Phase One included projects that improved the safety of our campus. Phase One also addressed projects that would continue to degrade over time if postponed, resulting in greater future expenditures.

Phase Two of the Next Generation Campaign will accomplish the following: undertake planned projects that improve safety, repair and prevent further deterioration of our building and facilities, improve and update infrastructure and facilities, and complete deferred-maintenance projects that need to be addressed now, as well as forecasted major maintenance. These projects, which have been outlined and ranked in order of importance by the Building Committee, will begin very soon or in the short term.



Are we completely depleting our savings?

We used a portion of our savings (facility reserve fund for capital improvement) to begin the Next Generation Campaign projects and to complete the Phase One of the project. Also, all three ministries of our Parish — St. Clare Church, St. Clare School and St. Clare Preschool — are contributing saved funds to Phase One, demonstrating belief in the project and commitment to its goals.

How does sustainability figure into this?

The Building Committee is considering sustainability and applying environmentally sound choices wherever prudent and possible. By being good stewards of our current campus and facilities and improving upon what we already have, St. Clare Parish is truly reducing, reusing and recycling! In addition, our main contractor is committed to recycling materials and is a LEED- (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified business.

How will this interrupt Parish life?

Some of our buildings may need to be closed during parts of our repair, renewal and restoration efforts; disruptions will be kept to a minimum and communicated in advance to affected groups.

How are we going to reach this goal in this economy?

Donations from our facility reserve fund and contributions from our three parish ministries have been used for Phase One. Over \$530,000 toward our \$1.5M campaign goal has already been generously donated by St. Clare families! Parishioners and members of our school and preschool communities will be asked to pledge a sacrificial gift to support St. Clare. (One guideline to consider is donating or pledging an amount equal to your annual Parish contribution for three years and continuing your regular Parish contribution as well. For those who can give more, please do!) The Next Generation Campaign outreach effort will also seek corporate matching gifts and gifts of appreciated stock.

We will reach our goal by coming together to pledge our support for the Next Generation Campaign for St. Clare. Our campus is a gift that has been given to us by prior generations of St. Clare families; it's our turn to build a solid foundation for future generations.

In short, we are St. Clare — and together we will make this happen for our children and for our future!