

Feasibility Study Report Summary

St. Margaret of Scotland Church

Prepared by: Parish Development Consultants

September 2017

Thanks to all parishioners who participated in the recent **Parish Feasibility Study**. The study sought input from parishioners on plans to accomplish a variety of capital improvements to our Buildings and Grounds. A second purpose was to identify levels of financial and personal support for a future capital campaign. The information and questionnaire were sent to all our parish's 4,223 registered families, of which 960 families are identifiable contributors and/or are participating in parish activities. To date, we have received 362 responses (38% of the active families) A summary of responses to the questionnaire is outlined below.

How long have you been a parishioner at St. Margaret's?

Average was 27 years.

How would you rate of overall satisfaction with the parish?

98% responded with Very Satisfied or Satisfied

Are you familiar with the parish's current needs?

71% responded "Yes"

26% responded "Somewhat"

The parish will need to conduct a capital campaign to fund the cost of the proposed repairs and improvements?

92% responded "Strongly agree or Agree"

What is your reaction to the Needs Statement?
(Please review the needs statement)

65% responded "Favorable"

34% responded "Mixed"

Significant gifts will be needed for the parish to undertake this project. If you were to consider making a financial commitment to the campaign, could you estimate the size of your gift?

A total of 142 families estimated their potential commitments ranging from \$500 to \$20,000 totaling \$443,500 to 467,500 in multi-year pledges.

Are there any of these projects that you feel should be given priority?

Top Comments:

Safety Items are a top priority

Church entrances and exits

Handicapped issues and Bathrooms

The Kitchen will encourage social events

Other thoughts or Miscellaneous Comments?

Top Comments:

We are committed to help

Can we give \$10 to \$15 per month?

We hope the parish succeeds

Capital Campaign is needed – the weekly collection barely pays the bills

Safety and efficiency should be the number one focus

Spending money on the Kitchen is worth it in the long run

Are there other areas of need not included in the Needs Statement that you see as a priority?

Top Comments:

More accommodations for the handicapped

Ramp at the entrance of the Church

Bathroom in the vestibule

Additional Handicapped parking spots

Report's Comments

Parishioners' Observations

- Parishioners recognize it has been well over 50 years since the construction of the Church and understand the need to keep up with capital improvements.
- A majority of parishioners recognize the need to make major repairs and improvements to parish buildings and grounds.
- Parishioners commented on the need to repair the entrance bridge and side stairs into the Church as a top priority as they have become a safety issue.
- Parishioners commented on the need to better accommodate handicapped parishioners by providing dedicated pew space in the Church and additional parking spaces in front of the Church.
- Parishioners strongly supported the bathrooms being renovated to accommodate the handicapped and replacing the lift in the Parish Center, some suggested the installation of automatic door opener at the entrance of the Church.
- Parishioners feel the carpeting and pews are still in good condition and were not in need of being replaced or refinished, however many feel the kneelers need to be replaced as they have become worn out. Many felt that the parking lot was still in good condition and could be re-coated, repaired and restriped to extend its life.
- The majority of parishioners agree with the overall need but some wish to learn more about the specific details and see a phase by phase approach.

Recommendations

The results of the Feasibility Study indicate that St. Margaret's is in a very good position to conduct a capital campaign and has taken important steps toward sharing key information with parishioners regarding the needs of the parish.

- The participation rate (38% of the 960 active families) or (9% of 4,223 registered families) indicates a good number of parishioners that gave input.
- A solid majority 98% are satisfied or very satisfied with the parish and 92% agreed with the need to conduct a capital campaign.

a) Parish Financials

Taking into account the annual income of the parish, support for the case and the need to conduct a capital campaign and the early indication of between \$443,500 and \$467,500 in pledges, we believe the parish has the potential to raise between \$900,000 and \$1.3 million in multi-year pledges. We recommend that parishioners be able to make pledges payable over a four year period and the parish should be prepared to continue the efforts of the campaign during the pledge redemption period.

b) Project Cost

Diocesan estimates put the cost for all possible projects as \$1.6 million. However, taking into consideration the input from parishioners, we identified **the top priority items as the entrance bridge and side stairways, the renovations of the Bathrooms and Kitchen in the Auditorium and mandated Safety updates.** A phase-by-phase effort, focused on the top priority projects (with estimates for each phase) will be used.