



GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH

Background Statement

Our Parish Family

Since our founding in May 1965, Good Shepherd has been a parish known for its hospitality and commitment to service in our community. Led by our pastor, Father Tom Ferguson, we **celebrate** our faith in our liturgies, **hand on** our faith in our formation programs, and put our faith **into action** in our numerous ministries of service and advocacy.

We are a diverse family of faith with parishioners from many cultures and nationalities. Our ever-growing and thriving Spanish-speaking population now represents 35 percent of our parish.

In recent years, our parish has experienced steady growth, and Good Shepherd currently serves as the spiritual home for over 3,600 families.

Continuing Our Growth

As we have grown as a parish, our facilities have also needed to expand to meet the needs of our parishioners. Our parish has a rich history of building: In the 1960s, the first generation of parishioners started the parish by building a multipurpose building on our 11 acres of land. In 1984, our parish church was dedicated. In the early 1990s, we built the office and classroom space that is stretched to its maximum use today. Almost ten years ago, we completed a comprehensive facilities master plan to meet the present and future needs of Good Shepherd Church. The construction financed by our last fundraising campaign - *Our Family, Our Faith, Our Future* – enabled us to make the improvements deemed most essential by our parishioners. This project included improvements to the sound system and lighting in our worship space, upgrades to our kitchen and restroom facilities,

improved access for parishioners with disabilities, and renovations to Creedon Hall, all of which have enhanced our parish ministries significantly.

As Good Shepherd continues to grow in size and level of activity, our need for space regularly exceeds the amount available for all our liturgical, faith formation, and social justice activities. Completing our master plan through a final construction project is the task that lies before us.



Our Vision

As we seek to accommodate the desire for ever-expanding ministries in our parish, enhance the beauty of our liturgy, and be good stewards of the facilities we have been given, our vision is to:

Build a chapel: Adjacent to our main worship space, a chapel will enable us to expand opportunities for daily Mass and Eucharistic adoration (including a daily Mass in Spanish), provide a more intimate setting for weddings, funerals, and daily Mass, and also contribute to a more energy-efficient use of our larger church space.



Create Additional Meeting Spaces: Good Shepherd is desperately seeking to address the need to expand the currently limited space available for our religious education program, youth ministry, and other parish groups and organizations. Creating additional space for classes and meetings will allow us to enhance our opportunities to fulfill our primary purpose as a church – handing on and growing in the faith that is put into action through service and advocacy for others.

Improve Accessibility and Provide for Maintenance: We intend to improve our main entrance so that we might better accommodate parishioners who have mobility issues. We also will address several long-awaited facility improvements (e.g., parking lot and outdoor lighting) throughout our campus that will allow Good Shepherd to serve our community and visitors better.

Our Planning Study: Seeking Your Advice

We are conducting a study to seek your advice on a capital campaign to begin in early 2020 with a goal of \$5,000,000. Since this effort requires extensive planning and prayer, we are asking for your thoughts on the project and your advice for moving forward. A member of our parish staff will contact you to arrange a 30- to 45-minute private discussion with a professional from CCS Fundraising, the firm we have selected to conduct the study. The discussion can take place as your schedule allows in the coming weeks at your home, workplace, or at the Good Shepherd Church office. Your responses will be kept private, but will be quite helpful in establishing the next steps of our plan. We are deeply grateful for your participation in this process and are confident, with your guidance, that we will make the right decisions for Good Shepherd. Thank you for your counsel and wisdom.



Our Future

A campaign is an opportunity for parishioners to transform both our parish and how we serve our community together.

We are excited for this occasion to bring our parish family closer together through a new chapel, while simultaneously improving our classroom spaces and creating room for our families to pray, learn, and serve together.