

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
Walking by Faith 2021

In 2021 we will continue *Walking by Faith* as we work toward fulfilling Fr. Jose's Vision 2025. Specific steps for 2021 and beyond include:

Facilities

- Prioritize the components of the Historic Church restoration and develop plans to finance them.
- Construct a new rectory.
- Address deferred maintenance.

School

- Increase enrollment to 250.
- Add bus transportation.
- Continue scholarship fund emphasis.

Evangelization

- Identify & implement a parish renewal process.
- Create outreach to inactive Catholics and the unchurched.
- Evaluate our "Sunday experience."
- Bring people back to church using communication.

Community Building

- Rehire a Youth Minister.
- Evaluate parishioner engagement & address identified issues.
- Create links to community organizations to serve those we are now missing.
- More fully utilize digital communications.

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN

Walking By Faith 2021

- Please return the commitment card.
- Use "On-Line Giving" which provides regular support, is secure, and allows you to use a credit card that earns rewards.
- Have your credit card available.
- Go to stfrancisbend.org; click "Giving."
- Click "On-Line Giving."
- Click "Sign In."
- Return Users: Input your email & password, or;
- First time users, click "Register for an Account." Complete the required information and click "Register."
- Select the fund from the list in the "Fund" dialogue box. For normal Sunday gifts, select "Offertory;" for Historic Church Restoration, select that fund; and for "Scholarships," select that fund.
- Put in the gift amount and credit card information.
- To make the gift recurring, click the "Recurring" link and enter the required information.
- You can give to more than one fund by repeating this process for each one.
- If you are not already giving in the normal Sunday collection, make a pledge or gift for this purpose now.

Tax Effective Ways of Giving

- Make a gift of long term appreciated securities. These gifts by-pass capital gains tax and are deductible at their current fair market value. Contact your tax professionals to learn more and Jane Rude, the parish finance director, for parish related instructions.
- Are you over 70 ½? Make a Qualified Charitable Transfer (QCT) from an IRA directly to the parish or school. The transfer is tax free. Talk to your tax professionals to learn more. To execute such a gift contact both your plan administrator and Jane Rude for parish related instructions.

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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*Walking
by
Faith*
2 Corinthians 5:7



Stewardship 2021



**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Walking by Faith

2 Corinthians 5:7

Stewardship 2021

In his 2nd letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul talks about the need to be courageous for “we walk by faith not by sight” (2Cor 5:7).

2020 showed us what “walking by faith” means. It was challenging spiritually and materially.

As COVID shut us down, we live-streamed Masses, adoration and devotions, and continued to celebrate the Sacraments. Staff and volunteers reached out to over 2,100 parishioners by way of phone calls, email, and regular mail to check-in and offer support. If you have not received a call or mail, call the office to update your information at the parish. We made available masks and a lot of sacramentals to provide hope and strength. Some ministries operated technologically via Zoom.

Parishioner generosity and prudent fiscal planning allowed us to continue the restoration work at the Historic Church.

2021 will again call us to “walk by faith not by sight” as we emerge from the epidemic. Despite the uncertainties that lie before us, the Lord leads the way. In him our hope is secure and we know that St. Francis of Assisi Parish will continue to grow and thrive. This brochure explains what we have accomplished and what we hope to accomplish with your support.

As always, your financial gifts will be the critical difference in helping us moved ahead.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

2020 Accomplishments

Historic Church-Restoration

- Replaced the failing rock wall at the Historic Church.
- Received architect’s design proposal for the church’s interior.



27th Street Church-Upgrading

- Re-carpeted the office common areas.

Pastoral Priorities

- COVID Response
- Live-streamed Masses and devotions.
- Called parishioners to check-in and offer help.
- Expanded communications to include broadcast emails.
- Launched parish App
- Continued celebrating sacraments including First Communion, Confirmation, Weddings and Funerals.
- Fall Faith Formation classes have begun using innovative approaches.

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CATHOLIC CHURCH



School Successes

- Spring classes continued using on-line technologies.
- In-person classes are being held for all grades.
- Enrollment is strong across all grades.
- \$80,500 in financial aid was awarded in the 2020-2021 school year.

