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## **Case Statement**

### ***Our Mission:***

*We, the people of Nativity Catholic Church,  
are called to live and to proclaim our faith in the presence of Jesus Christ.  
As a community of faithful stewards, we strive to live our faith  
through worship and prayer, life-long faith formation,  
and by compassionate service to those in need  
both in our parish and larger community.*

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### **Our Faith Journey**

In 1947, the Archdiocese of Indianapolis secured 16 acres of farmland with a barn that soon opened its doors as Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Catholic Church. From these humble beginnings, our parish has expanded to now include a bustling school, the church we built in 1968 after a fire destroyed our original structure, and a new Parish Center, dedicated in 2014.

Over the years, our parish has thoughtfully and responsibly made plans for how to best serve the community. We invested heavily in the needs of our school beginning in the 1950s and continuing through the 1990s and early 2000s, adding a multi-purpose center/gymnasium, classrooms, and meeting space. A diocesan-wide campaign in 2006 led to improved lighting and infrastructure on our campus. Throughout our history, Nativity's leaders carefully planned for the future, allowing us to respond to our growing needs while remaining financially stable and debt-free.

Initially serving 60 families, Nativity has grown significantly over the past 70 years and now serves more than 900 households. We are blessed with a vibrant community that continues to thrive.

### **A New Vision**

Continuing the parish's long history of thoughtful planning, our pastor, Fr. Pat Doyle, formed a Long-Range Planning Committee in 2009 to explore all aspects of parish life, particularly the condition of Nativity's facilities and the ability of those assets to meet the future demands of our community. This committee found that while the school was now well-positioned, Nativity needed to address both the Parish Center and Church building in the coming years. Due to the pressing need for more meeting space, a two phase approach was recommended.

A campaign for a new parish center was undertaken in 2012. The support of parishioners coupled with their enthusiasm for the project enabled us to open the facility we all enjoy today. Our new Parish Center has contributed immeasurably to the ministry work of our parish and brings us closer together as a parish family in ways both planned and unexpected.

### **A Renewed Space for Prayer**

Nativity Catholic Church is now embarking on the final phase of our planned project. It is time for us to expand and renovate our church. This project will address parish growth as well as the impact of the passage of time on this venerable building. We are fortunate the structure of our existing church makes it very conducive to the expansion and renovation, thereby allowing it to better serve our needs, enhance our worship experience, and provide for those who come after us. This is truly a legacy and transformational project for our parish.

#### **Key aspects of this renovation:**

- Repositioning the altar and pews to increase seating from 600 to 700 with a longer main aisle.
- Creation of a new, large gathering space at the front of the church which will allow our parishioners to visit with one another before and after Mass, and other parish events, in a comfortable, welcoming environment
- A dedicated room reserved for the Children's Liturgy of the Word
- Reconfiguration of the area behind the current sanctuary to accommodate better placement of the altar and sanctuary including the addition of large stained glass windows in the new back wall behind the altar to bring in more natural light
- Increasing the number of windows allowing more natural light to flood the interior of our church and sanctuary
- Creation of new sacristy and vesting areas; the size and functionality will be increased to better serve our liturgical ministers and those who assist in our daily and weekly Masses
- Enhancement of the music ministry and preparation area which will be more accessible and visible to the congregation
- Addition of a new baptistery which will utilize our current baptismal font and be located in the main entryway or the sanctuary.
- Preservation of the style and aesthetics of the current church while adding modern characteristics
- Improving accessibility to the church and sacristy for those with physical challenges.
- Installation of a new state of the art sound system and increased/added lighting, which will enhance our worship as a community
- Repairing of the roof and installation of a new heating and cooling system which will add comfort and energy efficiency; reconfiguration of exterior façade and roof to reflect architectural elements our new Parish Center
- Addition of new parking and green space in front of the church to enhance our presence in the community and offer a silent "Welcome!" to those who pass by

### **Estimated Costs**

Initial consideration was given to building a new church. However, in examining our financial capability and considering our responsibility to be fiscally prudent, expansion and renovation is our chosen path.

The work done will be solid, lasting and simple, not luxurious or trendy and in keeping with our community's and gospel values to graciously foster growth in our Catholic Faith.

The estimated cost of our church renovation project is approximately \$3 million. Two important aspects will have a significant impact on our financial capability to address this project: Funding already available and raising the additional needed amounts through a capital campaign. By investing in our worship space, we demonstrate our commitment to the community and our future.

**ANTICIPATED FINANCING**

Estimated Project Cost:	\$3,000,000
Parish Savings :	- \$500,000
<b>Minimum Campaign Need:</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>

**A Challenge and Invitation**

We are very excited about the opportunities ahead. With parishioner support evident through our recent feasibility study we are now conducting a campaign called *The Future Is Now!* with a goal of \$2.5 million. All parishioners are asked to consider a sacrificial gift to help upgrade the building that is at the heart of our mission.

While the financial goals of this project are challenging, *they are attainable*. Of course the success of *The Future Is Now!* campaign will require the support from everyone in our parish community.

Every family will be approached in the upcoming months and a gift amount or range will be suggested for each household to prayerfully consider. No judgment is made on the level of gift you or others make. The specific gift request is based on our project cost and meant to provide a frame of reference for each family's participation. Our campaign seeks equal sacrifices, not equal gifts. Ultimately, the true test of any gift is whether it is planned, proportionate and sacrificial.

*Everyone must give according to what they inwardly decide; and not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver. God can multiply His favor among you so that you will always have enough of everything and even a surplus for good works.*

*St. Paul (2 Corinthians 9: 7-8)*

Pledges made to the *The Future Is Now!* campaign are not legally binding. They may be increased, decreased or canceled at any time and the parish will send payment reminders according to your stated intentions. Because we rely on your normal weekly offering for the normal operating expenses and programs of the parish, in a true sacrificial sense, contributions to *The Future Is Now!* campaign should be considered over and above your weekly offertory giving.

Those who are long-term members of the parish will recognize this effort as the culmination of a multi-decade effort to position Nativity now and for the future. This renovation to our worship space is the last significant step we need to take as a parish family for some time. This is a wonderful opportunity to make a profound impact on our parish and return the many blessings we have received. With God's help and your continued support, Nativity Catholic Church will continue to thrive in the years ahead.



## **Prayer for God's Blessing On The Campaign for Nativity Catholic Church**

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Almighty and Eternal God,

At this moment in the life of our parish,  
we turn to you with grateful hearts  
for what we have received  
and with great anticipation  
for what we will receive in our future ...  
a future that is now.

Bless us with a sense of unity,  
a spirit of fidelity,  
and a generous heart  
as we embrace the opportunity  
to renovate our Church.

May we achieve great things now and always  
so that trusting in your grace,  
we may bring greater honor and glory to your Name.

Through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.