



GROWTH
IN
Christ
A CAMPAIGN FOR ST. THERÈSE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: *Martin Family Center*

As we get ready to launch our *Growth in Christ* Capital Campaign, we know you have a lot of questions. We will try to keep you informed about our plans and the campaign through a series of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

Visit our campaign website at st-therese.org for additional information about our campaign.



What is the Martin Family Center?

Named in honor of St. Thérèse's family, the Martin Family Center is designed to be a welcoming place where parishioners of all ages can gather and grow in faith, fellowship, and community. It will provide much-needed space for ministry, school activities, and parish events while strengthening the connection between our church, school, and community. *The Martin Family Center will feature:*

- » Gymnasium with two regulation-size sports courts
- » Flexible space for large church and school events
- » Elevated stage
- » Two meeting rooms
- » Attached catering kitchen
- » Welcoming lobby connected to our school
- » Handicap-accessible second-story indoor walking track
- » New Outdoor Learning Center for the Early Learning Center

How will the Martin Family Center benefit the church and school?

The Martin Family Center will benefit all aspects of life at St. Therese and every generation of our parish family – from our youngest students to our oldest parishioners. It will provide the space we need to gather, celebrate, learn, and serve together as we continue to grow in Christ. It will give us:



MORE SPACE FOR MINISTRY

The center will give us flexible, dedicated space that allows our ministries to expand their outreach, strengthen relationships, and better serve parishioners of all ages. It will:

- ♦ Reduce scheduling conflicts so ministries can meet consistently and throughout the day.
- ♦ Free existing classrooms and meeting spaces for additional programs and activities.
- ♦ Create more room for faith formation classes, Bible studies and group events.



A COMMUNITY HUB

The center will become a central gathering place for our parish family and give us space for events, including:

- ♦ Gala and North Star Night Out
- ♦ Parish talent show and Christmas play
- ♦ Bingo nights
- ♦ Pep fests
- ♦ Feed My Starving Children meal packing
- ♦ Parish retreats
- ♦ Guest speakers
- ♦ Concerts
- ♦ Archdiocesan events

It also will provide opportunities for fellowship through activities like pickleball, basketball, and volleyball while offering Deephaven Woods residents a welcoming place to exercise and walk year-round.



MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

The Martin Family Center will greatly enhance the educational experience for our students by:

- ♦ Providing enough space for the entire school to gather safely and within fire code for assemblies and special events.
- ♦ Hosting larger audiences for programs such as graduations, school plays, talent shows, and spelling bees.
- ♦ Giving physical education classes, school recess, and the Early Learning Center additional indoor space when weather prevents outdoor activities.
- ♦ Providing dedicated space for occupational therapy and other student support services.



How will we pay the Martin Family Center's operating costs?

We have spent the past year carefully studying the long-term operating costs of the Martin Family Center. Our Director of Operations has met with leaders from the Minnetonka Basketball Association, Minnetonka United Soccer, Legacy Hoops and Hoop Habits to understand how their facilities operate, their expenses, and what they charge local sports teams and leagues to rent their space for practices and tournaments. Based on this research, we are confident that we can run the center responsibly while generating roughly \$200,000 in revenue through carefully managed rentals that help offset operating costs. As with every parish ministry, we will continue to monitor expenses and adjust our operating plan as needed to ensure good stewardship of parish resources.

How often will the center be used by non-St. Therese organizations?

When church and school activities are not scheduled, we plan to welcome carefully selected outside groups whose activities align with our Catholic faith. Limited rentals will help generate revenue to support the center while ensuring it remains primarily a place for our parish family to gather, build relationships, and grow in Christ. Church and school events will always receive scheduling priority, and the center will not be rented during Sunday Mass times or when school is in session.



What is the Outdoor Learning Center? What are the plans to replace it?

The Outdoor Learning Center is one of the Early Learning Center's most valuable classrooms. It allows our youngest learners to experience God's creation through hands-on learning, exploration, problem-solving, and stewardship in a structured outdoor environment. We will work closely with our Early Learning Center teachers to design a new Outdoor Learning Center that builds on the success of the current space while meeting the needs of future students. Funding for the new Outdoor Learning Center is included in the Martin Family Center project.

Will the current gym and stage in the school still be used?

The current gym will continue serving our school throughout the day for physical education classes, Early Learning Center activities, and indoor recess when weather keeps students inside. Having two activity spaces will reduce scheduling conflicts and better accommodate students of all ages. We also are exploring ways to repurpose the existing stage into two additional classrooms or flexible learning spaces that can provide student support, small-group instruction, and other educational programming.



*Lord, Renew
Your Church*