



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

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Rectory

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.



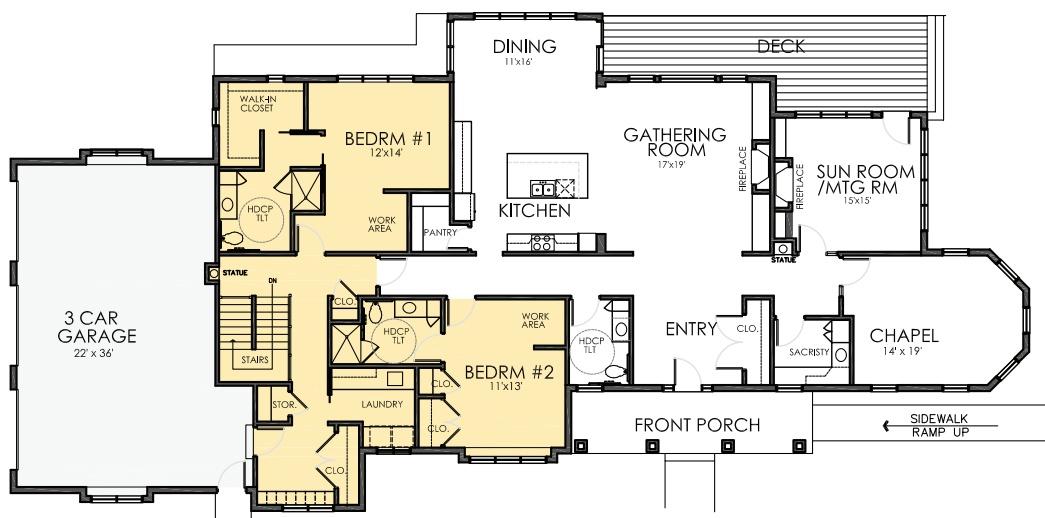
Why do we need a rectory to house several priests on campus?

The Catholic Church has long recognized the importance of priests living close to the people they serve. A rectory on campus allows priests to be more present in parish life, readily available to parishioners, and able to share daily life and ministry together. Living within the parish community reinforces that the priesthood is not simply a job, but a vocation – a spiritual fatherhood and a pastoral way of life – centered on serving God's people.

Our current living arrangement for priests has been a great gift. However, we must prepare for the possibility that our beloved parish community will require a

pastor and a permanent associate priest. We also hope to create a living arrangement that could be home for a retired priest, a teaching parish seminarian for weekend visits, or a neighboring pastor desiring to live in a priestly fraternal setting.

Building a rectory on campus is our ideal solution. However, we recognize that there may be other alternatives to ensure that St. Therese Parish is served well and priests can build fraternity, such as purchasing an existing home next to campus. Rooted in prayer, leadership will take time as it patiently discerns what is the best permanent, long-term solution for a new rectory.



*Proposed rectory floor plan



What would a new rectory include?

The proposed rectory is designed to be much more than a residence. It would provide a welcoming home where priests can live in community, a chapel to pray together, host small meetings and gatherings, and better serve the parish while still providing each priest with appropriate private living space.

During the planning study, many parishioners shared that the original proposal was larger and more expensive than necessary. We listened carefully to that feedback and substantially revised the plans while maintaining our goal of creating a home that supports community living for multiple priests.

The current design would be fully ADA compliant to accommodate three priests, with the flexibility to convert additional space into bedrooms if needed in the future. Each bedroom would include a private bathroom, workspace, closet, and sleeping area.

What are the anticipated operating and maintenance costs? How would the parish pay for them?

Like any home, a rectory has ongoing expenses, including utilities, insurance, maintenance, and housekeeping. To help cover these costs, we plan to redirect the \$2,000 per month budgeted to rent our existing rectory. In addition, if priests from neighboring parishes or retired priests choose to live in the home, rental income would help offset day-to-day operating expenses. As with every parish facility, we are committed to responsible stewardship and will carefully manage operating costs over the long term.



*Lord, Renew
Your Church*