

Let the Children Come

Common Questions

Question 1: When will building begin and how can contractors bid?

According to diocesan regulations a parish must have half the money on hand before beginning a project, and must have a plan for how to acquire the remaining balance. Our project estimate is \$550,000, so half on hand is \$275,000. The plans for the remaining balance can be parish pledges or taking a loan from the diocese. After these two items are in place we can begin the building process.

Our building committee has hired Chris Streck to be our project manager. Chris has extensive first-hand knowledge of the campus and has experience with the diocese building procedures, both diocesan requirements to be on a project. Chris will be soliciting bids for all subcontract work. Any building questions or bids can be directed to Chris Streck.

Question 2: What will the project consist of?

The addition consists of 4 new classrooms and a large open unfinished storage space in the basement. The basement storage space will house the new walk-in freezer and allow for substantial storage for all the dry goods. The 4 additional classrooms will allow for the split of 1st and 2nd grades and give the option to move some of our special's classrooms. Along with the addition we will be remodeling part of the existing education building for student bathrooms, and the entire education building will get new windows and a new roof.

Question 3: Does research show a long-term boost in student population?

YES! Although the population of Cooper County does not show upward trends, our enrollment in the school, in the daycare and recent baptismal records support long term growth for the school. Many families are coming from surrounding districts stating they support our values and methods of education and many young couples are moving back to the area to raise their children. Our long-term class sizes for 1st & 2nd grades for the next 5 years, from 2024-2029, are 19, 27, 27, 19, and 21 students. We are thankful for this growth and the positive ways it affects our school and our parish as a whole and we pray God continues to bless us.

Question 4: What are the staffing plans to support an additional classroom?

This year with the current enrollment and the anticipated increase to the 1st & 2nd grades we hired Klarissa Williams as a classroom aide. Mrs. Williams recently obtained her teaching certificate and after a year helping Mrs. Amanda Schuster in the 1st & 2nd grades is planning to take the role of a classroom teacher next year in one of these two classes.

If you have any other questions please reach out to the office or contact any member of the building committee.

Thank you and God Bless!

Father Mark Smith, Nichole Watring, Kurt Kammerich, Brian Kliethermes, Jennifer Martin & Dustin Schuster

