

Statement of Need – Small Parish Buying New Church Building

Background

Having just finished our fifth year as an established parish, we are grateful for all that God has given us to enable our growth as a community of Faith to this point. We have been blessed to be able to worship within our “adoptive family’s” home, at the (Protestant parish we rent from). We have grown from an initial group of a few families with a vision and a hope to build a new Orthodox community, and now are over 80 families – and growing every day! For the first four years, we were blessed to grow under the spiritual direction of (first priest’s name). By God’s grace, in August, 2000, (the new priest) came to our parish as our pastor, and under his guidance, our community continues to grow.

Parish Vision

As a parish, we have several goals that we would like to achieve:

- **Christian Education** – including Sunday School for our children, quarterly seminars for all of our enrichment, adult catechism;
- **Counseling** – to be a resource center to help guide and restore marriages, to counsel the bereaved;
- **Youth Center** – to provide a place for youth in our parish to “hang out;” to feel comfortable and feel a sense of ownership;
- **Music Program** – to teach the hymnography of the Church to old and young alike;

Through faith, hard work and determination, our parish continues to expand. Our ministries continue to grow and an increasing number of families are calling (parish name) their home. Now, a new and holy task appears before our faithful parishioners. In order to increase opportunities for religious education, fellowship and the growth of ministries, it is essential for us to provide a “permanent home” for our parish. After careful consideration of a number of factors, including location, size, and style of building, a property in (new town) has been found to be a wonderful fit for both our current needs and our projected future growth.

Goals and Objectives

Our parish leadership desires to learn of your thoughts and feelings concerning this project. It is vital to assess the support of our community before proceeding further, and committing ourselves to purchase this property. Although much work remains in order to fully define the specific use of each aspect of the (new town) property, we can state with confidence that the project will provide the following:

- **A New Temple** – The new worship space will be able to meet the expanding needs of our Orthodox community. The Nave seating area for the faithful will seat 250 faithful. New iconography will be introduced in time, but an iconostasis and modest changes to the current structure will provide an appealing home for Orthodox Christian worship.
- **New Classrooms / Meeting Rooms** – With 12 classrooms already in place, this building will enable our Church School to flourish without space constraints. Additionally, many of our ministries will find a home without the scheduling challenges that we currently experience in our borrowed environment. A teen room, several conference rooms, nursery, enclosed playground, and offices are well suited for our parish needs. A key benefit is that whatever future ministries the community may seek to undertake will likely be able to be housed within facilities already in place for us.
- **Fellowship Space** – For our many parish family gatherings, a reception area that comfortably seats 200 is in place. A good sized kitchen with the necessary equipment for our current fellowship needs and would allow for new special events in the future of the parish.

The Fund Raising Plan

The appraised value of the (new town) Community property is \$3 million. We are blessed to have accumulated nearly \$400,000 to date in our building fund, which would mean that \$2.6 million needs to be sought to afford the purchase. We hope to raise the vast majority of this through pledges fulfilled over a period of three to five years, with only a limited amount that may need to be carried as long-term debt for our community.

To be successful, we will need the true sacrifice of all our stewards. After a quiet period, during which we seek to raise major leadership gifts, every member of the parish will have the opportunity and privilege to participate in this historic and vital project. In justice, we seek gifts of equal sacrifice, not equal amounts. Only you can measure the abundance of blessings you have received and are able to return in time, talent and treasure for God's work as we unite to continue the mission of Jesus Christ through (parish name) Greek Orthodox Church.

Statement of Need – Small Parish Building Expansion

“By wisdom a house is built and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.”

Proverbs 24:3-4

The Project

We draw nearer to the celebration of our beloved parish's 60th Anniversary, which will take place in 2008. Our existing facilities were built in 1948 by a dedicated, small group of parishioners who overcame great barriers and with much sacrifice, built our beloved Church as it exist today. Now we, as the present generation, must show our same devotion and commitment to our Church to expand our existing facilities to meet the growing needs of our community. In continuation of the work and sacrifice of our forefathers, and in response to the current needs of our parish, we propose to embark on a major revitalization project, to build facilities and expand worship space in order to increase opportunities for religious education, fellowship and the growth of ministries.

Background

Through faith, hard work and determination, our parish continues to expand. Our ministries continue to grow and an increasing number of families are calling our (parish name) their home. At the dawn of the third Christian millennium, a new and holy task appears before our faithful parishioners. As our grandparents and parents were faithful in their time, so too must we be faithful in our time. Inspired by the activity witnessed in the growth of our parish and its ministries, let us embark on a project to revitalize our facilities to meet the current and future needs of our parishioners.

Goals and Objectives

Parish Leadership desires to learn of your thoughts and feelings concerning this project. It is vital to ascertain the support of our community before proceeding further. Although much work remains in order to fully define the specifics of the expansion project, we can state with confidence that the project will include the following:

- **New Church** with seating capacity of 120 (compared to current capacity of ~ 80) with overflow seating for additional 45-65 seats (including a loft area for the overflow seating).
- **New Greek Orthodox Community Center with Library, Heritage Center, New Classrooms / Meeting Rooms** - the new Community Hall will seat 150 people on the same level as the current Church to be accessible to all Parishioners. New bathrooms will be located off of the Social Hall. A new state of the art kitchen will include a walk-in freezer, refrigerator, with space for all appliances in current kitchen and a loading dock for easy deliveries. The bigger Community Center would enable us to host a number of events that we are currently unable to accommodate such as receptions, fundraising activities, and other cultural and religious outreach activities for the community. The

upper level will include a new **Library/Board Meeting Room and Heritage Center**. In addition, there will be a new **Priest Office**, **six new Classrooms** and **new Children's activity area**. Additional classrooms will serve a dual purpose. The classrooms will provide our children with the proper environment to learn. They will also enable the community to expand its youth ministry in areas including Sunday School, Greek School, and Preschool. When used as meeting rooms, they will be utilized by various church groups, such as the Philoptochos, adult education, parish council, young adult education, a library / homework center, and Bible study groups to mention a few. A new **Elevator** will connect Administrative/Educational areas to the Social hall on the main level. There will be 8,140 square feet of unfinished **Basement Storage** for Festival, Bake Sales, and Seasonal Decorations.

With the increased number of stewards and the expansion of our ministries, the community also faces a challenge to expand the availability of parking. While no decision has been made on an exact plan to address parking, we have acquired (adjacent property) that will be utilized for parking in the future, and we have permission to utilize the parking area at (a nearby elementary school) on Sundays. We will seek additional input from our community to improve the parking situation.

The Fund Raising Plan

The goal is to raise \$900,000 for construction of the new Church and \$1.6 million for the Community Center/Parish Hall through pledges fulfilled over a period of five to ten years. To be successful, we will need the true sacrifice of all our stewards. After a quiet period, during which we seek to raise major leadership gifts, every member of the parish will have the opportunity and privilege to participate in this historic and vital project. In justice, we seek gifts of equal sacrifice, not equal amounts. Only you can measure the abundance of blessings you have received and are able to return in time, talent and treasure for God's work as we unite to continue the mission of Jesus Christ through (parish name) Greek Orthodox Church.

Statement of Need – Mid-Size Parish Building Expansion

The Project

As we approach the 50th anniversary of our beloved parish we become increasingly aware of the bounty of God's blessings. Through His grace, the work of our current and former clergy, and the dedication and labors of our many parishioners, (our parish) continues to expand. At the close of 2005, we had 577 pledging families (up from 428 in 2004). With this growth, however, comes new challenges.

Therefore, in response to the current necessities of our parish, we propose to embark upon a major expansion project that will address our spiritual, educational, and fellowship needs. In short, we are presented with the responsibility of matching the past sacrifice and achievement of our parents and grandparents. Let us follow in their footsteps and provide for our community, as they did before us.

Goals and Objectives

Over the past few months, the Building Committee has compiled a "list of needs" from the many organizations of the Parish. Before we develop potential expansion plans based upon this list, it is critical that we gain an accurate measure of the community's support for the various aspects of our building campaign. This will be done through a "Parish Assessment" conducted by the Archdiocese Office of Parish Development. The preliminary consensus of the Committee is that the building project would include the following:

- **New Classrooms** - The quality of our educational ministries and the safety of our children is critically hampered by the shortage of space. In addition to meeting educational needs, new rooms would offer meeting space for our many organizations.
- **Expansion of Hall/Gym/Kitchen/Storage** - Our community has outgrown its current facilities. At the present we are unable to prepare a meal for, much less seat, our entire community. Likewise, there are so many groups seeking time in the gym that we have been forced to rent external facilities. An expansion of our community center would not only address these needs, it would enable us to expand the food festival and generate rental income as well.
- **Expansion of the Church** – According to the standard church seating formula (i.e. one seat for every pledging family), we are nearly 200 seats short of our present needs. In the months to come, there will be considerable discussion about how we expand the seating, accommodate the needs of the clergy and choir, and provide a more appropriate space for the relics of (the saints for whom the parish was named).

The Fundraising Plan

We currently estimate that we would need to raise between \$3.5 - \$5.5 million for the entire project. If necessary, we could complete the project in phases, as funding allows. Our goal is to raise the entire sum through a special pledge drive, which would be fulfilled over a period of three to five years. To be successful, we will need our community to consider prayerfully the financial offering and sacrifice they can make. In justice, we seek gifts of equal sacrifice, not equal amounts. Only you can measure the abundance of blessings that you have received and can, thusly, determine the extent to which you should contribute to the ministries of (our parish).

Statement of Need – Larger Parish Building Expansion

*“...whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.”
I Corinthians 10:31*

Statement of Need

Background

During the last 35 years, our community has been blessed with remarkable growth. From the early days of liturgies at (a high school) to the temporary altar in the educational building, and finally to our church's home built in 1984, the (parish) is today the home of approximately 600 stewards and stands as a beacon of light in the community. Through the faith, hard work and determination of our stewards, our parish continues to expand.

Just as our community met the challenge presented to them years ago in building the church, we are blessed with a new opportunity to glorify God. In many ways, we have outgrown our existing facilities...Sunday School classes are combined to fit into existing space, no office space is available for a growing staff or for quiet conversations with those purchasing cemetery space, and a (theatrical group) that would be even more effective in a space designed for theatrical performance. In order to meet the current and future spiritual and physical needs of our parish, we wish to embark on creating homes for our ministries so that we can sustain and perpetuate the Orthodox Faith into this century and shape the future of the youth in our parish.

Goals and Objectives

In June, 2004, the Parish Assembly approved the mission of the building expansion program, stating that “the (parish) wishes to create an environment to envelop and nurture the energy of our faithful in order to sustain and strengthen our faith, heritage and legacy. A multi-purpose facility would satisfy the needs of a growing generation and would excite and challenge our youth to cohesively perpetuate the Orthodox faith well into the 21st century and beyond, all for the glory of God.”

At this point, parish leadership desires to learn of your thoughts and feelings concerning this project. It is vital to ascertain the support of our community before proceeding further. Although much work remains in order to fully define the specifics of the expansion project, we can state with confidence that the project will include the five following items:

- **Classroom Building Renovation** - This is one of the most important aspects of our project as it predominately serves the youth ministries of our parish. The educational building is a 15,190 sq. ft. renovation. Classrooms will be updated and expanded to provide our Sunday School, Greek School, and Preschool children with the proper environment to learn. The rooms are designed to pave the way for new expansions in our youth ministry. The project will include an expanded library, computer center and archives.
- **Expansion of our Administrative Area** - Our goal is to add an additional 2,985 sq. ft. and renovate the existing 2,165 sq. ft. of administrative area to provide quiet, appropriate work space for our priest, a youth director, office staff, cemetery sales, and possibly a future

assistant priest. A board room and additional meeting rooms will provide the Parish Council, Philoptochos, and other groups with places for productive meetings. The space will also include office storage and a copy area.

- **Social Hall and East Lobby Addition** - The new social hall, lobby and courtyard are a 16,400 sq. ft. addition. This will include many features necessary for our growing community: a large beautifully designed social hall that can accommodate both theater seating and seating with banquet tables, a theatrical stage with dressing rooms, new restrooms with handicap access, a new updated kitchen area, elevators to service all the buildings, a grand lobby with open stairwells, and a coat check area. Potential will exist for renting this space to the community and providing a modest income stream to the parish. This area will have access to the classrooms, the expanded parking lot, and the church. This addition will also include a large storage room and the new Young Men's workshop room.
- **Gymnasium and West Lobby Addition** - Today, our youth sports programs rent space from a local high school. Instead, our parish can provide a "home court" and a space that will draw our youth toward their Church. This new addition of 11,400 sq. ft. will provide space that is enticing to the youth in our community, including a new gymnasium, and a comfortable youth lounge area that will be set aside as "a place of their own". The addition will also include a new office for the schools and even more storage area.
- **Parking Expansion** - With all this work, we will also increase the paved parking lots to accommodate 552 spaces, nearly triple today's 182 spaces. This will make it easier for those who come to worship or for the use of our ministries to park on a pavement rather than grass, and will also be a benefit for our festival.

The Fund Raising Plan

The goal is to raise approximately 6.9 million dollars through pledges fulfilled over a period of three to five years. To be successful, we will need the true sacrifice and commitment of all our stewards. Every member of the parish will have the opportunity and privilege to participate in this historic and vital project. We seek gifts of equal sacrifice, not equal amounts. Only you can measure the abundance of blessings you have received and are able to return for God's work as we unite to continue the mission of Jesus Christ through (the parish).

Statement of Need – Larger Parish Building Expansion

***“So they said, ‘Let us rise up and build.’
Then they set their hands to do this good work.”***

Nehemiah 2:18

The Project

During this third year of the new millennium, we draw nearer to the celebration of our beloved parish’s 45th Anniversary, which will take place during this upcoming new year. In continuation of the work and sacrifice of our forefathers, we as a parish have chosen to embark on a major revitalization project to renovate, enhance and beautify our worship space and build facilities to increase opportunities for religious education, fellowship and the growth of ministries.

Background

Through faith, hard work and determination, our parish continues to expand. Our ministries continue to grow and an increasing number of families are calling (parish name) their home. At the dawn of the third Christian millennium, a new and holy task appears before our faithful parishioners. As our grandparents and parents were faithful in their time, we too must be faithful in our time. Inspired by the growth we have witnessed of our parish and its ministries, a project to renew our facilities to meet the current and future needs of our parishioners has been undertaken.

Goals and Objectives

The parish leadership desires to learn of your thoughts and feelings concerning this project. It is vital to ascertain the support of our community before proceeding further. Although much work remains in order to fully define the specifics of the expansion project, we can state with confidence that the project must include the following:

- **A New Chapel** - A rebuilt and beautified chapel will be able to meet the expanding needs of our Orthodox community. The Nave seating area for the faithful will consist of 500 seats. New iconography will be introduced which will present the theology of our faith to our stewards and will inspire reverence and bring solace to future generations.
- **New Classrooms / Meeting Rooms** - Currently, the community utilizes partitions within the gymnasium and Guardian Angel Chapel to set up temporary “classrooms” for the children. Both learning and teaching become very difficult in this environment. Additional classrooms will serve a dual purpose. The classrooms will provide our children with the proper environment to learn. They will also enable the community to expand its youth ministry in areas including Sunday School, Greek School, Preschool, and a potential future parochial school. They will be used as meeting rooms by various church groups, such as the Philoptochos, adult education, parish council, young adult education, a library / homework center, and Bible study groups to mention a few.

With the increased number of stewards and the expansion of our ministries, the community also faces a challenge to expand the availability of parking. While no decision has been made on an exact plan to address parking, we will seek additional input from our community to improve the parking situation.

The Fund Raising Plan

The goal is to raise between \$5 million and \$7 million through pledges fulfilled over a period of three to five years. To be successful, we will need the true sacrifice of all our stewards. After a quiet period, during which we seek to raise major leadership gifts, every member of the parish will have the opportunity and privilege to participate in this historic and vital project. In justice, we seek gifts of equal sacrifice, not equal amounts. Only you can measure the abundance of blessings you have received and are able to return in time, talent and treasure for God's work as we unite to continue the mission of Jesus Christ through (parish name).