

Campaign Messenger

Rebuild 2 Serve Campaign

Issue 1 March 2026

Campaign Announced

We are pleased to announce the launching of a very special campaign effort for the benefit of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church. It's entitled the **Rebuild 2 Serve Campaign** and its goal is to raise the funds required to address our capital improvement needs for continued growth and living out our mission.

We have set a minimum goal of \$6,000,000. This amount, plus the \$2.8 million raised in the previous campaign, will enable us to demolish the existing Parish Center and Child Development Center building and begin construction on a new, expanded and improved facility completing the first floor plans with some debt.

Setting an ultimate goal for the Rebuild 2 Serve campaign of \$8,000,000 will enable us to complete the first floor of the Parish Center and Child Development Center without debt and begin planning the second-floor buildout.

The campaign will officially commence with a special **Kick-Off Celebration** scheduled for Sunday, April 12th



Strengthening Our Foundation for the Future

and will culminate on **Commitment Weekend** on Saturday and Sunday, May 30-31st when members will be asked to make their campaign gift commitments.

The pages that follow provide additional detail about our needs, our plans, and our campaign. Through the prayerful, volunteer, and financial support of many, we will succeed in our task. In so doing, St. Philip Neri Catholic Church will have taken the necessary steps to strengthen our foundation for the future to continue to grow and live out our mission for generations to come.

Campaign Leadership Enlisted

Our **Campaign Cabinet**, the leadership group for our campaign, is now in place. This critical core group of leaders will give guidance and drive the overall campaign.



Serving as Campaign Co-Chairs of this special effort, **Gerry and Laurie Gallup** will lead and oversee the entire campaign, with particular responsibility for the gift-gathering phases and team.

In addition, we have been blessed with an excellent supporting cast

who are tasked with leading our necessary campaign support teams.

They are **Deacon Dennis and Adele Ference**, who will lead our Prayer Team; **Randy D'Agostino**, who will lead our team for Hospitality; **William and Angela Behrmann**, who will lead our Youth and Children's Gifts Team; **Jen Fredenberg**, who will lead our team for Communications; and **Tom and Bev Tauke**, who will lead our Creative Giving Team.

Finally, we are also blessed to already have the following people step up and agree to serve on our Gift Gathering Team—the group of volunteers who will be visiting a select group of members in advance of Commitment Weekend and

inviting them to consider their gifts.

Many more volunteers are still needed to help with this important effort. **So, please say 'yes' to volunteering if you're asked.** We promise it will be a gratifying experience without taking a lot of your time. Plus, it will make a big difference to the success of our campaign.

God calls us to care for, cultivate, and improve all that He has entrusted to us. This is what it means to be a good steward of all God's gifts.

Our Challenges

Our current Parish Center building has been problematic since it was built in 1998. Starting with the damage caused by the 2004 winter snowstorm, the building has continued to present ongoing structural challenges and functional limitations. And the Parish Center is currently operating at full capacity and cannot support any further growth.

Space is at Capacity

Our parish has continually grown since it was founded and since the Fr. John Guiliani Parish Center was built, with over 3,380 registered households now being served. Fort Mill remains the second fastest growing town in South Carolina, growing 37% since 2022 based on the 2023 Census data. Our Parish Center is at full capacity with no space for parish ministries, events, and activities to grow.

Structural Damage and Functional Limitations

The building's aging structure, kitchen and electrical system limitations impact the overall functionality and usability of the space.

- Roof leaks continue to reoccur, forcing us to deal with and pay for increasingly costly repairs.
- The electrical system is being used to the limits of the original design, and to upgrade it as desired is increasingly costly.
- The kitchen is undersized and poorly laid out for our current and future needs and should be completely upgraded to efficiently serve our ministries, parish events, and large community events.

Five years ago, an engineering study was undertaken to explore how the Parish Center could be expanded.

The results determined that just the repairs needed, without expansion, would cost well over \$2 million at that time. Even then, the result would be a building that still would not meet our needs.



Our Solutions

The original vision for the Rebuild to Serve effort envisioned two separate buildings: a new Fr. John Giuliani Parish Center on the existing site, and a new building for the St. Philip Neri Child Development Center (CDC) and additional meeting space. However, as we moved forward to technical planning, we determined that the two-building concept was not feasible based on two critical factors:

Cost:

It became clear that the amount of site work required for the proposed second building would significantly exceed the initial expectations as well as requiring modifications to the church's main entrance.

Accessibility:

The design was going to require reducing the courtyard size as well as limiting the driveway entry into the courtyard. This would have impacted numerous aspects of campus activities and limited emergency vehicle access.

Returning to the one building concept was the complete consensus of the Pastor, the Construction Committee, Parish leaders, and the architect and builder.

Building a New Fr. John Giuliani Parish Center

The new two-story building will provide expanded space for the Parish Center and the Child Development Center, and additional meeting space for formation opportunities and ministry growth. While the second floor will not be built out immediately, its inclusion in the design allows us to plan for future growth and ministry needs as they arise.

The new space will be approximately **52% larger than the current facility**, with the Parish Center and shared areas

approximately 46% larger, and the Child Development Center (CDC) approximately 65% larger.

Parish Center

A large welcoming lobby will feature two separate conference rooms, ADA-accessible restrooms, a family restroom, and an elevator, to ensure all are welcome.

The new Parish Center will comfortably accommodate 500 people, providing ample room for parish events, meals, celebrations, and fellowship opportunities that bring our faith community and our local community together.

A large, fully equipped, commercial-grade kitchen will be supported with the appliances, layout, storage, and equipment needed for our ministries and organizations to successfully cook for and serve both small and large events. The kitchen will also feature expanded storage room, an outside loading dock, and an outdoor grill pad.

St Philip Neri Child Development Center (CDC)

The Child Development Center will have dedicated space to better support our educational mission in a secure, age-appropriate facility. This will enable the Parish Center to be available for use by other

ministries and events during weekdays.

The main entrance will lead into a generous **lobby** providing transition space for greeting and security check-in. Adjacent to the lobby will be a **conference room**, well-suited for meetings, small groups, or administrative use. The heart of this space will be a large, open **central gathering area** that will allow for flexible use. An administrative office for staff will be conveniently located near the entrance.

In addition to the shared gathering and support spaces, the floor plan includes **nine classrooms** designed for flexibility and growth. This will provide an environment for formation programs, small groups, and ministries to meet throughout the week.

The plan includes multiple **restroom options** including child-size restrooms situated between classroom pairs for better accessibility and supervision. We will also expand the sick room and modify the storage areas to ensure a healthier and more organized environment.

A dedicated music room and library have been added to enhance the learning environment for our children.



CONCEPT RENDERING



NEW CHILD DEVELOPMENT & PARISH CENTER



How You Can Help

In preparation for this important event, we ask that you do three things:

1 Pray

Please **pray** for our volunteers, staff, and all members of our church community. Pray for God's guidance and our campaign's success as we focus our efforts to strengthen our foundation to support the life and mission of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church for generations to come.



2 Volunteer

Please **volunteer** your time to our campaign effort. Over 120 volunteers are needed to assure that the campaign runs as efficiently and effectively as possible and so that volunteering is a relatively easy and enjoyable job for everyone.



3 Invest

Please **invest** and make the very best gift that you possibly can when you are asked to support our campaign. Long-term pledges payable over three years, in addition to your annual offering, are encouraged and essential to meeting our needs.

Your prayerful, volunteer, and financial support is vital to our campaign's success.



Hear, Here Join Us For Our **Rebuild 2 Serve** Campaign Kick-Off Celebration

April 12th

At 1:00 pm in the Parish Center

Enjoy light refreshments and fellowship with other parishioners. Listen to inspirational talks. View our newly produced campaign brochure and video, and learn first-hand of our needs, our hopes, and our plans.

You'll hear it all here.