



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

December 2024

As we approach the end of 2024, the St. Thomas the Apostle Facilities Planning Committee would like to provide an update on the parish's progress in building a new church. (See *Raise The Roof* information on the reverse side to learn why we're building a new church.) Last April, at a parish-wide meeting, the Committee presented updated design concepts and the important liturgical elements of the new church. Since then, the Committee's focus has been working with the architectural and civil engineering consultants to create and submit a site development plan to the City of Corcoran. A development site plan involves many planning components, such as the location of the proposed new church and its dimensions on the property, parking lot design, road access points, grading and elevation improvements, stormwater management, road and property setbacks, and environmental impact planning. As discussed at the April meeting, the proposed site for the new church and related facilities is in the middle of our property on the northwest side of the cemetery. The new church's main road access point would connect with Commerce Street and County Road 10. The site plan approval process usually takes 4-6 months.

Once the site plan is approved, the Committee will seek archdiocesan approval to begin the site improvements in the summer of 2025. The site can settle over the winter of 2025 and be ready for construction to begin in 2026.

This past summer/fall, the Committee completed removal preparation tasks for the house west of the church (known as the "THND" house) and the shelter used for Bingo during the parish festival. All environmentally sensitive components have been removed. The house and shelter will be taken down based on the excavation company's schedule.

Help build a church for God and our community!

Current Funds: We have \$4.6M in donations (already given/pledged to give). The campaign needs an additional \$3.4M pledged to reach the \$8M goal to begin the construction of the new church.

The parish must meet the fundraising goal for the new church to begin construction in the spring of 2026. Raising funds for a new church is truly a spiritual journey. We're building a space to worship God as He desires and invite our neighbors to join this mission. The goal is simple but powerful: to lead all souls to Christ!

Learn how you can be part of this exciting work.

- **Give:** Any financial amount will make a difference in bringing this vision to life. Have you contributed yet? We need all parishioners to contribute to help build the new church.
- **Pray:** Prayer is a powerful part of this journey; spiritual support is welcomed and encouraged.
- **Invite:** Spread the word and invite friends and family to support this mission financially and prayerfully. Visit the church website at churchofstthomas.org/future, which explains the mission and includes a donation link (or scan the QR code below). You can also access this document to share with loved ones who may be looking for a meaningful cause to support!



Thank you for being part of this journey. Additional updates will be provided as the proposed site development plan undergoes approvals from the City of Corcoran.



RAISE THE ROOF

St. Thomas the Apostle: A call to build a church for generations (conceptual renderings)



This parish strives to welcome the growing community, serve those in need, and lead all souls to Christ.

St. Thomas the Apostle is at a pivotal moment in its history! In 2017, a building committee was formed. In 2022, they took a significant step forward by launching a Capital Campaign. The initial construction phase (new church with 400 seats) is projected to cost \$8 million. The archdiocese has two milestones to meet before construction can start. The parish must have half of the total cash on hand (*done* ✓) and the remaining project cost (\$3.4 million) in pledge commitments. (A “pledge” is a promise made by an individual/s to give a financial gift to an organization by a specific future date.) This is an exciting opportunity, as this will be the first new church built in the Archdiocese in 16 years.

The 25-acre St. Thomas church site is in the heart of Corcoran and is surrounded by new developments and exciting opportunities for partnership within a five-mile radius. These include new housing developments and a new senior living complex (St. Therese); area Catholic schools include Ave Maria Academy (PK-8) and Providence Academy (PK-12).

As the population in this area continues to grow and church membership rises, it has become necessary to increase the size of the church and make it compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in order to accommodate the expanding needs of our inter-generational community.

As we embrace the area’s rapid growth, please help St. Thomas move towards expanding its presence in this thriving area!

- Join in prayer, asking for God’s will and Our Lady’s intercession to guide the campaign and the building process.
- Support this mission by donating to close the \$3.4 million gap to build this church and uphold the rich traditions and history of St. Thomas the Apostle.

Thank you for considering to support this mission. (See the *Capital Campaign* update on the reverse side for a progress report on building the new church.) The campaign contact is Susan Wieneke (763.486.5441).

