

Renewing Our Church Together

OCTOBER 2022



AN UPDATE ON OUR CAMPAIGN

Goal: \$500,000,000

Raised to Date: \$427,942,478

Percent of Goal: 86%

Number of Gifts: 42,372

Thank you for your generous support!

Called to Renew helps growing parish focus on a larger church

The ever-growing community at St. Vitus Parish in San Fernando has embraced *Called to Renew* — and the opportunity to raise funds for a much-needed larger church.

Each Sunday, 1,000 people gather for the traditional Latin Mass, said Father James Fryar, FSSP, pastor. Since the current church only seats about 120 people, they celebrate Mass outside in a tent — regardless of heat, rain, or the Santa Ana winds.

"Even during the week, we get so many people that it's hard to fit them in the church," he said.

St. Vitus was established in 2018 and is the newest parish in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. On June 25 of that year, Archbishop José Gomez dedicated it as a personal parish of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, the congregation of which Father Fryar is a member.

The community raised funds toward the purchase of the current church, which is situated in an industrial zone in San Fernando. It has since been paid off in full, Father Fryar said, and the goal is to either build a new church or refurbish a Protestant church to be a Catholic church within a five to 10-mile radius of the current location.

But not only is the market proving to be very difficult, "we want it as fast as possible," he said.

The parish exceeded its \$625,000 goal during its first week of the campaign and has now raised 144% of goal. Father Fryar is hopeful that they can raise as much as \$3 million toward a new church during *Called to Renew*.

"Not everybody can give, but everybody wants to do as much as they can," he said. "Everybody is excited."