



Investing in Future Generations

NOVEMBER 2019



Ventura parish directs campaign gifts to facility and ministry improvements

Thanks to *Called to Renew*, Our Lady of the Assumption School has a much-needed new roof.

“Four years ago, we did an assessment of the needs of the parish, and we started with reroofing the church,” says Father Leon Hutton, pastor of the Ventura parish. At 63 years old, the school roof was next on the list.

With about 280 students, the school is central to the parish community. The building also hosts religious education classes as well as events in the attached parish hall.

“Because of climate change, the school itself was probably 20 degrees hotter than the outside temperature,” he says. The project also included replacing a skylight that had been damaged during a microburst.

Since the parish had conducted a campaign to raise funds for the church roof and landscaping, parishioners were interested in continuing to make improvements to the campus through *Called to Renew*, Father Hutton says.

In addition to the replacing the school roof, Our Lady of the Assumption plans to use campaign funds to remodel the sanctuary, update the lighting, and improve accessibility in the church, according to Lauren Burns, business manager.

The parish’s faith formation programs are also being enhanced. Currently, 300 parishioners are engaged in the first of five sessions in the Arise Together in Christ program, with a goal of building small faith formation communities. Parishioners are gathering in private homes once a week for six weeks. The second session will take place during Lent, Father Hutton says.

“We’re trying to connect people in their neighborhoods, reclaim people who’ve stopped going to church,” he explains.

Our Lady of the Assumption’s campaign has now raised \$2,464,964, which is 155% of its standard goal. Father Hutton credits the parish’s success to “a lot of people giving what they could generously.”

“I’m grateful,” he adds.



AN UPDATE ON OUR CAMPAIGN

Goal:	\$500,000,000
Raised to Date:	\$303,505,263
Percent of Goal:	61%
Number of Gifts:	17,891

Thank you for your generous support!

Want to learn more about *Called to Renew*? Visit calledtorenew.org