



Dear Parish Members,

I was honored when Msgr. Richard asked me to serve as Campaign Chair last summer, and of course said “yes.” I greatly admire his passion for St. Rita parish shown by his willingness to work on behalf for its continued success and viability for the long term future. I have witnessed the dedication and effort that he has put forth for this campaign, and I am inspired and confident that the Campaign will achieve and surpass it’s goal. Likewise, the Faith, commitment and enthusiasm on the part of the Cabinet is an indication of their devotion to this parish and their belief in the real need for the planned repairs and upgrades.

As the former CEO and current Chairman of AAA Southern California I have seen what dedicated and committed people can do to achieve excellence and success. What I have seen in this important campaign thus far at St. Rita is a project that is destined for success and that will help ensure the vibrancy of the parish for many years into the future.

On behalf of the Campaign Cabinet, I thank YOU in advance for your participation and support. Together we can do great things for our St. Rita Parish. Please join Monsignor and your fellow parishioners in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

Tom McKernan  
Campaign Chair

Dear Members of St. Rita Parish,

John and I have been devoted parishioners of St. Rita Parish for 34 years. As a proud parent involved in a loving and nurturing learning community, I eagerly joined the teaching staff of St. Rita school in 1991. When asked to accept the responsibility of school principal, I gladly accepted it to ensure that the legacy of faith and excellence continued. I had realized many blessings through our faith community and I answered the call to serve.



John and I were recently honored to join Monsignor Richard in his vision to ensure the continued viability and growth of our parish. As Campaign Cabinet members, we are charged with listening to the needs and priorities of every ministry and stakeholder and raising the funds to implement these needs. Monsignor Richard has gone to great lengths to listen to all who share a love and commitment to St. Rita Parish and School. This campaign will generate growth and energetic support for our parish and school. Phase one addresses the immediate needs of the parish. During that time, plans for the school will be designed to best fulfill the vast potential of the students and their families. As participants in the capital campaign, John and I are pledging a faithful commitment to the present and to the future.

St Rita School has a 92 year legacy of faith excellence and stewardship in the Parish. It is our largest ministry and has made the greatest impact on generations of families who continue to contribute time, talent and treasure to the school and parish organizations. We have outgrown the current buildings and in order to fully provide for the needs of our 21st century students, expansion and improvements are sensible. The capital campaign is a visionary plan that promises to ensure the tradition and vitality of our St. Rita Parish and School community for many more generations.

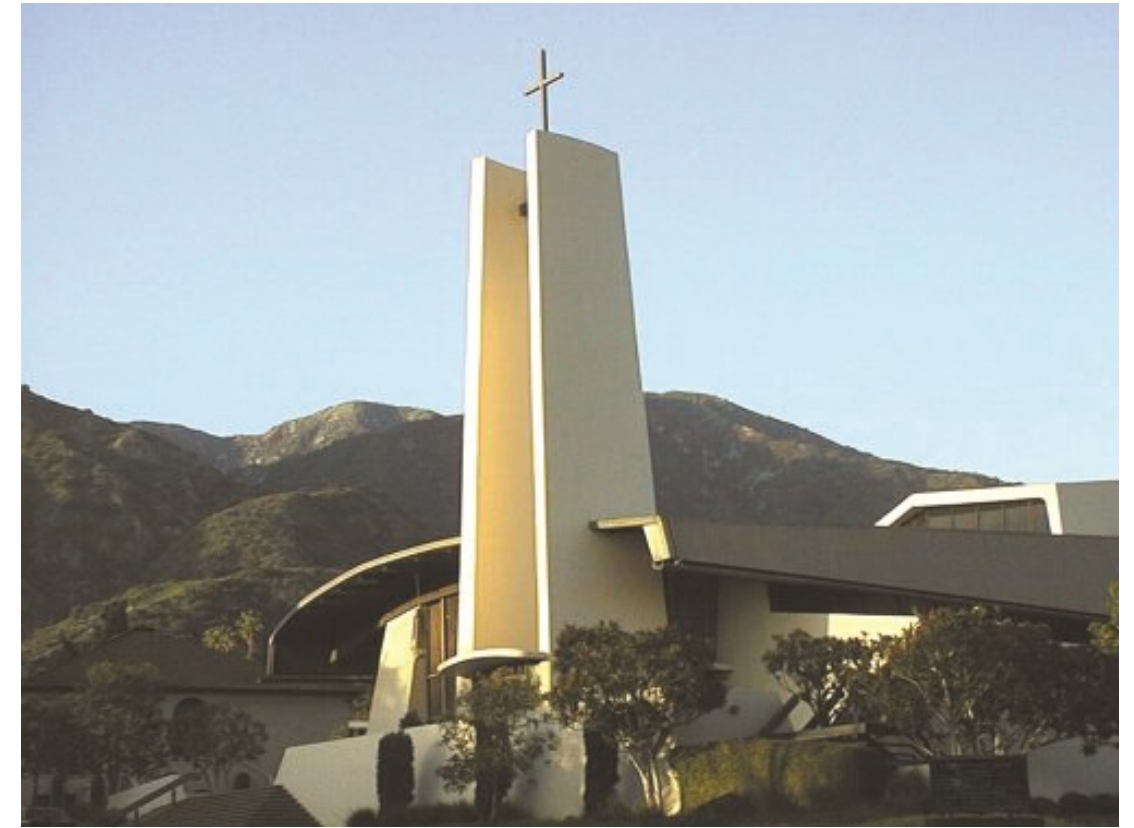
We ask for your prayers along with a pledge to support our efforts to continue to build the kingdom of God within our beloved St. Rita parish.

Sincerely,

Joanne Harabedian, Principal

# St. Rita of Cascia

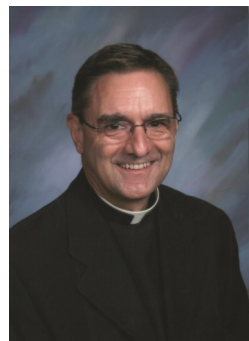
Announcing the St. Rita of Cascia  
**Capital Campaign**  
*Strengthening Our Holy Communion*  
*Growing in Faith, Hope, and Love*



Caring for God’s House  
Providing for Our Future



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## A Letter from Msgr. Richard

My Dear St. Rita Parishioners,

What a joy it is for me to be able to announce the opening of our Capital Campaign, *“Strengthening our Holy Communion, Growing in Faith, Hope and Love!”* It is a day I have been looking forward to with great anticipation and enthusiasm.

It was one year ago that St. Rita Parish took part in a feasibility study that offered parishioners a chance to share their priorities regarding the needs of St. Rita Parish.

### Top priorities that were identified:

- Needed repairs to the church
- Preservation of our 1922 building, Msgr. Gara Hall
- A new residence for the Pastor
- Improved meeting spaces

Our consultation with you also revealed the need to launch an in-depth study and planning towards renovating or rebuilding our St. Rita School as an obvious next campaign phase.

### Much has happened during this past year to help us along this path

- o The goal for the First Phase of the Campaign was set at \$5,250,000
  - o A Campaign Cabinet was formed
  - o The initial 39 pledges to the campaign were acquired.
- And almost \$2,000,000 of our goal has been pledged.

Originally we had planned to begin with the badly needed repairs and renovations to the church, but a property became available just across the street from the Parish plant and we were advised by the Regional Vicar as well as the Archdiocesan Real Estate and construction offices to make this purchase for a priests’ Residence. Acquiring this asset for the parish allowed us to free up space in the former rectory enlarging parish offices and offering additional meeting space.

In the meantime, we knew that going forward we needed to have a plan that included the needs and concerns of the school. To that end, I began to meet with and listen to the concerns of the faculty, staff and parent leadership of the school. I soon realized that there were many different voices to be heard. To help us with that, Shea Consulting was hired to do a survey, which was accessible on the parish and school websites. Present and past parents, alum, faculty and staff were encouraged to participate through notices in our bulletin, parent notification and e-blasts. Over 200 people took part in the survey and the results, overwhelmingly affirming of the school programs, will be used in helping to determine the direction we will take with the Master Plan.

Thank you to the folks who have brought us this far.  
My deep thanks to:

- Pastoral and Finance Councils for their advice and guidance;
- Charles and Caroline Norman, our Honorary Chairs,
- Tom McKernan, our Campaign Chair,  
The Campaign Cabinet and Major Gifts Committee,

Thank you also to those who took part in the feasibility study and in our school survey and who have been willing to share their thoughts. Please know that your voices have been heard.

Most of all, my personal and sincere gratitude to each of our donors who have brought us to this point in our campaign with their financial support.

***Now is the moment that this Pastor has been so anxiously awaiting. It is my opportunity to say to you that our campaign is officially beginning.***

So what now? Over the next month, we will have a series of gatherings to give you more details about the campaign and to answer questions. Every parishioner will be invited to one of these gatherings. I urge you to attend. It is important for you to know the facts.

While we need your financial support, right now what I ask of you is your spiritual support. Please, please pray for the success of the campaign. We will say our Campaign Prayer frequently together, but please also keep this prayer in your heart. I truly believe that it is in prayer, that we find God’s graces and blessings. In the book of Solomon, we read, *“Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it...”* and so we remember that it is only God’s will that will bring our work to fruition.

I chose the campaign theme: *Strengthening our Holy Communion, Growing in Faith, Hope and Love* because I believe that this is who we are as a parish. We come together with our body and blood to celebrate Jesus giving us His Body and Blood and when we do so, we grow in our faith, with hope, living in the love of Christ.

May this Campaign bring us closer to our Faith and in communion with one another.

With love,  
Father Richard



## A Prayer for Our Capital Campaign

Heavenly God,

Your Son, Jesus, established your Church as a welcoming and loving home for all who seek You. Here in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains you inspired our forebearers to build Saint Rita of Cascia Parish to be that place of prayer and community for all your children. Help us to maintain that legacy through strengthening our communion and continuing to grow in faith, hope and love as we repair our church, address our ministerial needs and address the concerns of our school. We offer prayers of gratitude for the sacrifices and the hard work of previous generations of parishioners who have helped make our parish what it is today. May we be as generous as we look to our future. Bless our capital campaign with a deepening devotion to prayer, a growing commitment for service, and increasing levels of generosity as we work to advance the life and ministry of our parish. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### Donors

- Anonymous
- Thomas and Susan Andary
- Tomie Balber
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- Larry and Barbara Vanni
- Pat and Sue Wickhem

Charles and Caroline Norman  
Honorary Chairs

### Campaign Cabinet

Msgr. Richard Krekelberg  
Pastor

Tom McKernan  
Chair

Mary Lou Butler

Richard Gray

Frank Hall

Patricia Hall

Joanne Harabedian

John Harabedian

David Muhs

Jill Muhs

Ellen Radle

Tom Radle

Margie Romano

Tom Romano

Margie Schubert

John Sinner

Angel Throop

Jeff Throop

### Pastoral Council

Msgr. Richard Krekelberg  
Pastor

Mary Ann MacGillivray  
Co-Chair

Martin Boskovich

Lisa Bowman

Running Bear Bunch

Mary Lou Butler

Wendy Gruber

Rosemary Hagerott

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Mark Hishchier

Susan Hubert

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James Pontello

Bob Swan

Larry Vanni

### Finance Council

Bill Sullivan  
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Chuck McDaniels

Tom McCarthy

