

# Frequently Asked Questions



## 1) What is the Catholic Foundation?

The Catholic Foundation of Santa Clara County is a non-profit fundraising entity organized to collect, monitor and distribute money for the benefit of the Catholic Community in Santa Clara County. [Read more](#)

## 2) What's the difference between ADA and Rooted in Faith Campaign?

The Campaign seeks to address long range needs. The ADA funds the annual operating expenses of the diocesan programs and ministries. The Rooted in Faith capital campaign will enable us to meet the challenges we face and provide a stronger financial foundation to better serve our communities and extend the outreach of our ministries and programs.

## 3) Why shouldn't I give to my parish instead?

Parish stewardship and diocesan stewardship should not be either/or choices. No parish can do all it seeks to do alone, and no diocese works independently of its parishes. This collaboration allows the Catholic Church as a whole to accomplish the most it possibly can in educational, charitable and pastoral programs from each dollar donated to both parish and diocesan collections.

## 4) Where can I get assistance? Financial? Social? Spiritual?

Every parish will receive significant assistance from the Campaign funding. Since we are the faithful stewards of your gifts we distribute money to the Parishes, Catholic Charities (408) 468-0100, and Diocesan Programs (408) 983-0100 to assist individuals.

## 5) I don't see anything on the diocese website?

In 2004, Bishop Patrick J. McGrath, after much prayer and consultation, made the decision to embark upon an historic campaign to help ensure that the Catholic Church of Santa Clara County will continue to flourish in the new millennium. However, The Catholic Foundation was established to be a separate legal entity from the Diocese of San Jose.

[The Diocese](#) / [Bishop's Article](#) / [Case Video](#)

## 6) What is the Parishes/Pastor's role?

Pastors will be asked to serve as positive advocates for the campaign. The Catholic Foundation will provide the parishes with the reports they need to contact individual donors for more personal assistance.

## 7) How long does the campaign last?

The entire Campaign goes until 2012. The Planning Phase began in 2004. The Leadership Phase was conducted from January 2005 through fall 2006. The Parish Phase was conducted from July 2006 through August 2007. We are now in the ongoing collection phase which currently will extend through December 2012.

## 8) How much will go back to the parishes?

Original Parish Share was scheduled to be \$4.75 Million. As of October 2008 we have disbursed over \$3.4 million to the parishes.

## 9) How do I know that my pledge to this Campaign will go to the components outlined in the case for support?

Bishop McGrath has gone to great lengths to ensure that the funds raised will be used exclusively for the components outlined in the campaign case statements. The Board of Directors of the Catholic Foundation of Santa Clara County oversees the funds and all disbursements, and an audit by an independent accounting firm is completed annually.

## 10) When will funds be available?

Parishes, Catholic Charities, and Diocesan Debt Reduction began receiving their shares in 2007. The grant application process will be introduced in 2009.

## What other languages are offered?

Para asistencia en Español, llama a (408) 995-5219.

Để được giúp đỡ với ngôn ngữ Việt, xin gọi (408) 995-5219.

## Frequently Asked Questions 2

### 11) How will individual financial commitments be collected?

All subsequent payments should be sent to The Catholic Foundation of Santa Clara County. Reminders will be issued monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually, with return envelopes for convenience. Electronic Fund Transfers and credit card payments are also accepted.

### 12) Can I change my pledge? Restriction? Parish?

Contact the Catholic Foundation office for changes in schedule, payment method and/or changes in restriction/parish. Our auditors, in assuring we are handling pledges in accordance to the donor's wishes, require that changes in parishes or restrictions be signed.

### 13) How can I pay my pledge? EFT/Credit Card? Stock? Checks?

Payments can be made in the form of credit cards, EFT transactions, marketable securities, or scheduled reminders with return envelopes. [See Contributions](#)

### 14) Do you accept Cars, Clothes, etc...?

For donations in the form of cars, clothes, or other physical goods please see Catholic Charities or Second Harvest, any other contributions should be discussed with the Catholic Foundation office (408) 995-5219.

### 15) To what extent are gifts tax deductible?

Gifts to the Campaign are tax deductible as allowed by law. The application of such laws varies with individual financial circumstances. Parishioners with specific questions regarding tax deductibility should contact their tax adviser.

### 16) Can my company Match Gifts?

Many corporations endeavor to match the charitable contributions of employees. Please contact your company's Human Resources professional to determine if your company participates in a Matching Gift Program. If you have questions, please call the Catholic Foundation office (408) 995-5219.

### 17) What if I'm behind schedule? How do I know? I am not getting my reminders?

Rescheduling is easy, we just want to make sure you receive the correct number of reminders you want. We only send out reminders according to your existing schedule, if you are behind or have stopped getting reminders, please call us to change your schedule so you can continue to receive statements. This is your pledge to the Rooted in Faith – Capital Endowment Campaign we are here to help you. For any questions or changes in your schedule please contact the Catholic Foundation office (408) 995-5219.

### 18) What other languages are offered?

We do have someone in our office who can help you in English, Spanish or Vietnamese.

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