



# ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

3511 YOAKUM BOULEVARD · HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006-4388 · VOICE: 713.526.5377 · FAX: 713.526.1048  
WWW.AGOC.ORG

July 11, 2016

Dear Fellow Parishioners:

Exciting news! Our campaign "Annunciation Cathedral 2017 – Preserving Our Past While Expanding Our Future" is in full swing. As we announced in the Spring 2016 Assembly, we have hired Tom Forney Construction to be our overall Project Manager and Philip Johnson Alan Ritchie Architects (PJAR) for the renovation and expansion of our beloved Cathedral. Marko Dasigenis, Principal Architect for PJAR and a member of our community, has been working hard with our Construction committee to develop the overall design that will be used to renovate and expand our Cathedral. Per the November 2015 approved motion, our goal was to achieve a domed cathedral with seating capacity of over 750 parishioners and a total project cost of \$12.5 million. We are making great progress! Accomplishments thus far include:

- Completed a new architectural design that features a larger dome, expanded balcony, Nave and Narthex that will achieve a seating capacity of over 800 parishioners.
- Overall project budget maintained at \$12.5 million.
- Engaging with potential construction companies with selection expected this summer.

While we are well on our way to raising the funds necessary for this project with current pledges of \$9.7 million, leaving \$2.8 million needed to reach our \$12.5 million goal, we need your help!! We currently have pledges from approximately 100 families and, as with our last major redevelopment campaign in 2000, we would like to have at least 500 families make pledges. To make it as easy as possible to give, pledges can be paid in a variety of ways – by check, credit card or with securities - over a period of up to five years if desired. You will notice a list of pledged donors published in the weekly bulletin. Please consider making your commitment so we can achieve 100 new family pledges per month. At that rate we will reach our goal of over 500 families pledging to the campaign before the Fall Assembly!!

It is important that each of us dig deep and contribute to this campaign over and above what we give for our annual stewardship, which is critical to keep up with our ongoing operating expenses as we undertake this historic project during our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year.

Our website has been updated with new information including the proposed floor plans and some spectacular renderings of the design. Please visit [www.agoc2017.org](http://www.agoc2017.org) for all project information. Additionally, a representative of the committee will be in Martel Hall after Liturgy on Sundays to answer questions and receive feedback on the new design.

I would also like to announce that we will be hosting a special community "Summer Brunch" event after Sunday Liturgy on August 28<sup>th</sup>. More information will be forthcoming on this event in weekly bulletins and other electronic communication.

Preparation for our 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Original Greek Festival is also well underway. Please look for opportunities to participate in day or night cooking and volunteering during the Festival.

Thank you again for your support and stay tuned for more information about "Annunciation Cathedral 2017 – Preserving Our Past While Expanding Our Future".

Sincerely,

Michael Koinis  
President – AGOC Parish Council