

New Foundations Information Sheet

St. Thomas Aquinas Church and School



Why Is This Important To STA?

Over its 80-year history, St. Thomas Aquinas School has built a diverse learning community where every student is nurtured and every graduate emerges academically ready, socially confident, and spiritually and civically engaged.

Growing Demand At STA

As more families have discovered the STA magic, demand for the school has skyrocketed. A building constructed for 157 students in 1941 now serves more than 230 pre-K through 8th grade students – a nearly 50% increase – with dozens more students on waitlists to enroll.

Do We Need These Facilities?

The facility no longer meets the needs of today's learners. STA's scrappy ethos has enabled the school and parish to accommodate its growth through creative solutions. The church nursery doubles as the pre-K classroom. Music is held in the church's community room. Art class takes place in a windowless basement that lacks ADA accessibility – which has hindered some students from being able to use the classroom.

What Is The Impact On Our Students And The Church?

These temporary solutions come at a cost. Co-mingling church and school space makes both buildings less secure. A miniscule pre-K classroom limits families' access to much-needed high-quality early learning seats. Lack of dedicated art, music, and modern science classrooms makes it difficult for students to learn in the hands-on, engaging way these subjects demand. And the school's use of the church's space cuts off churchgoers' daytime access to the parish for important fellowship events, such as support groups and Bible studies.

How Much Are We Trying To Raise?

The New Foundations campaign seeks to raise \$4.5 million to address these critical needs in the first major campus improvement in a generation.

What Will This Campaign Do?

- Repurpose the current kindergarten room as a dedicated pre-K classroom, enabling pre-K class to double its capacity and freeing up nursery space for the church.
- Create new classrooms for performing arts, visual arts, and STEM learning, elevating the STA learning experience for all students.
- Establish a dedicated room for school and community meetings and afterschool programming in the STEM lab.
- Increase security for the school.
- Allow the church more daily flexibility with their spaces and the opportunity to increase outreach and ministries.

Why Now?

All students deserve access to high-quality learning opportunities, and all parishioners should have a space they can call home whenever they need. The new space will profoundly shift the STA learning experience while reopening the parish to its community. Consider your gift today, so we can make this a reality for the current generation of students. By completing the fundraising in February 2027, we can break ground in Spring 2027, opening the first phase of the new building in Fall 2028.



ST THOMAS AQUINAS
CHURCH AND SCHOOL