

ALL SAINTS-BY-THE-SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Preserving Our Past • Preparing for Our Future
A Proposed Project to Strengthen and Enhance All Saints' Sanctuary

For more than 114 years our beautiful and sacred Sanctuary has served as the heart of our worship space. With its distinctive design of stone and wood, the Sanctuary is a warm and welcoming beacon of Christian refuge, support and renewal.

Generations of parishioners before us have raised funds to construct, expand and care for All Saints' Sanctuary and other buildings. Now we can honor that legacy of the past—and add to its strength and vitality—by planning to do our part to prepare our historic Sanctuary for current and future generations of use.

This proposed project will preserve the magnificent look and feel of the Sanctuary and provide numerous benefits for decades to come.

- Make the Sanctuary stronger and safer by bringing the Sanctuary foundations and the Bell Tower up to stringent seismic safety codes.
- Make the Chancel and Choir areas and the Communion Rail accessible to all parishioners, including those with disabilities and mobility challenges.
- Replace our failing pipe organ so our music ministry can reach its fullest potential.
- Improve lighting and acoustics to enhance the worship experience for parishioners and guests.
- Make better use of seating and convert the Vesting Room into an intimate “Seaside Chapel” ideal for weddings and smaller services.
- Build a lovely and serene Memorial Chapel with columbarium niches for parishioners and families who wish to have their cremated remains rest within the walls of All Saints-by-the-Sea.
- Develop a common landscape look throughout the campus; create areas for meditation, fellowship, and youth activities; and address general maintenance and improvements that have been neglected over the years. Enhancements to drainage and other patio needs will also be assessed as well as needs in the Parish Hall.
- Add to the endowment to support facility maintenance and repairs. In the past when facility emergencies occurred we redirected program and outreach funding to meet those needs. A growing endowment would benefit our facilities and our programs.

The solemn beauty of All Saints has provided solace and consolation to people in grief, in trouble, and in transition. It has also been a place of celebration and thanksgiving for life's many blessings, a myriad of marriages, baptisms, confirmations, and other rites of passage. All Saints is a place where parishioners, community members and visitors to Santa Barbara can turn to worship, pray and reflect, and where community organizations can enjoy our hospitality for their events.

We want the physical spaces in which we worship to fully reflect our spiritual values, to be a living embodiment of God's eternal and inclusive love. Our beautiful Sanctuary is a vital tool in achieving our mission. This project will make it more safe, welcoming and accessible. The physical improvements and the endowment will help to ensure All Saints' permanence for the future.

While our annual stewardship drive is strong, its focus is for the support of All Saints' Worship, Outreach and Formation programs, along with significant annual maintenance and operational costs. Our annual operating budget is simply not sufficient to tackle our most significant facility challenges. Through a capital campaign, we hope parishioners will consider gifts above and beyond their annual stewardship commitments to support this project.

Summary of Sanctuary Project Elements

Sanctuary Foundations and Bell Tower

A comprehensive engineering study confirmed that the Sanctuary foundations and the Bell Tower must be structurally reinforced to meet seismic safety standards. We are moving forward with the engineering and planning for this phase since the need is most urgent.

Accessibility Improvements

This project will create a new wheelchair accessible lavatory, install a small automated lift for handicapped access to the altar platform, and move the Communion rail and kneelers down from the altar to the congregation level, so worshippers who cannot or should not use the stairs can receive Communion with the rest of the congregation.

Enhanced Lighting, Acoustics and Sound System

Improvements will be made so congregants can better hear and see during worship. And the work will blend elegantly with the architecture of the Sanctuary. Enhancements include: a new lighting system, upgrades to the public address system, electronic aids in the pews for hearing-impaired congregants, and other modifications recommended by an acoustician.

New Pipe Organ

Only about one-third of the functionality remains of All Saints' existing pipe organ. The instrument is electro-pneumatic, meaning that it relies upon numerous electronic components, contacts and connections to activate the pipes, all highly susceptible to our caustic salt air environment. This project will install a new pipe organ, including pipes, wind chests, electronics and supporting equipment – to be located behind the main altar for optimal sound and aesthetics. This new pipe organ will provide the quality and durability required for our beloved music ministry.

Memorial Chapel

Repositioning the organ pipes frees up a marvelous space behind the existing north chapel in which to create an enclosed “Memorial Chapel” with columbarium niches. All Saints has been our home for baptism, confirmation, marriage, worship and formation, and with a Memorial Chapel it can finally serve those who wish to make All Saints the home of their earthly remains.

New “Seaside Chapel” and South Side Seating and Access

We envision converting the Vesting Room space into an intimate Chapel to be used for smaller services that might feel “lost” in the main Sanctuary. Sliding wood panel doors will separate the new Seaside Chapel from the Sanctuary and when the doors are open the space would become additional Sanctuary seating for Christmas, Easter and other special services. The design will also provide direct access from the Sanctuary to the patio at the end of services and update the working areas of the Altar-Flower guilds and Sacristy.

Endowment-Invested Reserves

We will add to our endowment/invested reserves to support ongoing repair and maintenance costs of All Saints' buildings. An endowment works over the long-term because only the interest—not the principal—is spent. Conservatively, we estimate that 3% to 4% earnings would be used each year for maintenance and repair costs. Earnings above this amount would be available for special projects or reinvested so the endowment grows to outpace inflation.