



— A POSITIVE PAST —

A FANTASTIC FUTURE

ALL SAINTS OF NORTH AMERICA ORTHODOX CHURCH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GUIDE

Digital Campaign Guide



TABLE OF CONTENTS

01

A Message from Father John

02

Important Dates

03

The Need

05

The Ultimate Goal

07

The How

09

Prayer Guide

19

FAQ



A MESSAGE FROM Father John

Dear Campers,

In the name of the Triune God who lives! Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

In the 9 years which I have served here at ASONA, I must admit I've never been quite so inspired and excited as I am at this time, on this day. YOU are the reason for this excitement.

We are positioned as a church in the fastest growing area of the greater Phoenix area, the west valley! In terms of population, location, visibility, and soon property and facilities, God has set before us a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. What Scripture declares "He has set before us a great and open door" (1 Corinthians 16:9).

"A Positive Past – A Fantastic Future" is the title of our capital campaign, and expresses perfectly our willingness to be challenged as ordinary Christians (nothing ordinary about that!), and through His Holy Spirit, to be His tools and builders for His extraordinary accomplishments. We have been given the privilege of advancing, in real ways, the Kingdom and the Glory of God.

I'm asking you to join me – without you, I'm worthless! YOU are ASONA! Join me, and our entire Church leadership, in living sacrificially, and giving sacrificially, over and above your faithful tithing, for the next three years.

You all know how much we have grown, and how we no longer have room for more tables and chairs. It is time for us to act, but as the deacon declares at the beginning of each Divine Liturgy,

"It is time for the Lord to act." (Psalm 119:126)

Indeed, "Now is the appointed time. Today is the day of salvation." (2 Corinthians 6:2)

Through the prayers of His most pure Mother, whose intercession we have already begun to entreat (she wants churches built to glorify her Son, our Savior). May this work set before us be accomplished to the glory of Jesus Christ, that it may follow us into eternity!

I hope you know how much I love you. I assure you, your love keeps me alive.

In Christ our Savior,

Fr. John

IMPORTANT DATES

02

EVERY SUNDAY 9:00AM

Liturgy starts at 9 am. Light a candle and say a deep prayer for ASONA and for our challenge.

OCTOBER 11

Kickoff Sunday

We will officially launch our Capital Campaign on this Sunday and we will hear some testimonials from ASONA members and their stories.

OCTOBER 21, 23, 28

ASONA Parish meetings

We will be asking everyone to attend one of these meetings, all at ASONA, to hear AND see the vision before us, clarifying sharply what we are doing, and why.

NOVEMBER 8

Commitment Sunday

On Sunday, November 8 we will come together to make our commitments to “A Positive Past – A Fantastic Future” and will hear more testimonials.

NOVEMBER 15

Celebration Sunday

On Sunday November 15 we will gather after Divine Liturgy for a celebration putluck luncheon. During this time, we will announce the final numbers from our pledges and gifts.

THE NEED

God has blessed ASONA!

Over the last few years, we have seen unprecedented growth in the life of our church.

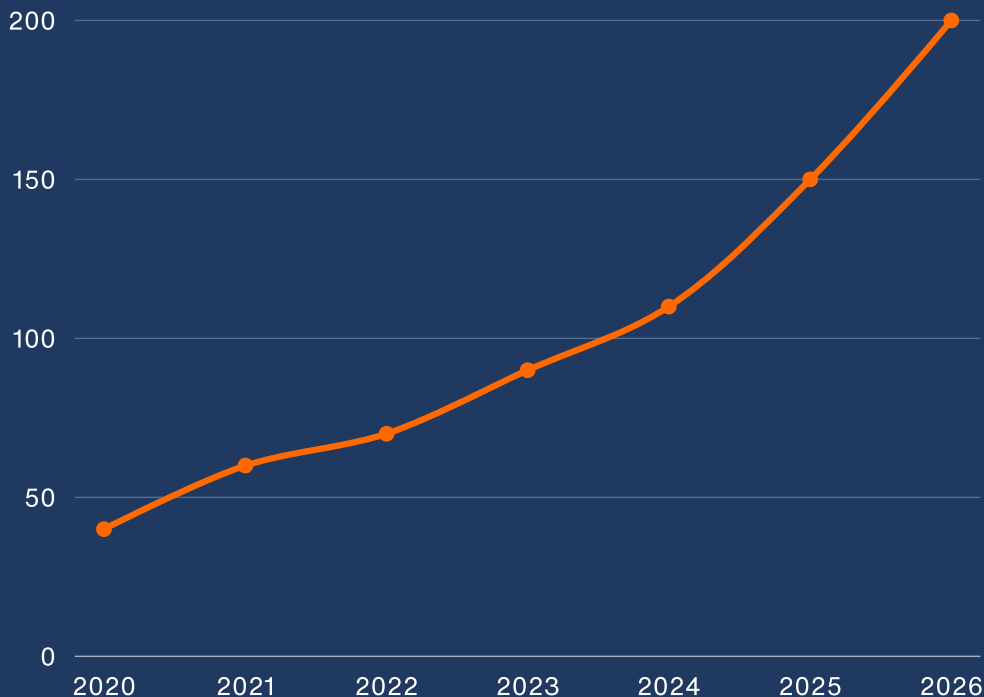
If you have attended recently, you know how many fresh faces there are every week! People of all ages worshipping with us, and growing with us. The number of teenagers, the number of young families, babies, toddlers, and youth – all who love the Lord and love His Church.

Our process of initiation into the faith is widely copied all over the world now. Our process of Mystagogy is ground breaking, and likewise, being imitated. Our weekday services, reading classes, Liturgies, Bible Studies, and special teams groups like St. Theodore's Recruits, St. Olga's Sisterhood, the Ronald McDonald teams, our ASONA Market makers, all round out ASONA as a special and busy place. Our annual Liturgical Practicum is utilized by clergy all over the diocese and indeed the nation; and as most of you probably know, we are very active in raising up, educating, and training clergy for the work of the Church.

We arrived at our current location with about 60 people. There are now over 200 on our roles! That's a lot of people in a very tight space! (Why am I telling you? You're living it each and every week!)



CONSISTENT GROWTH



Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

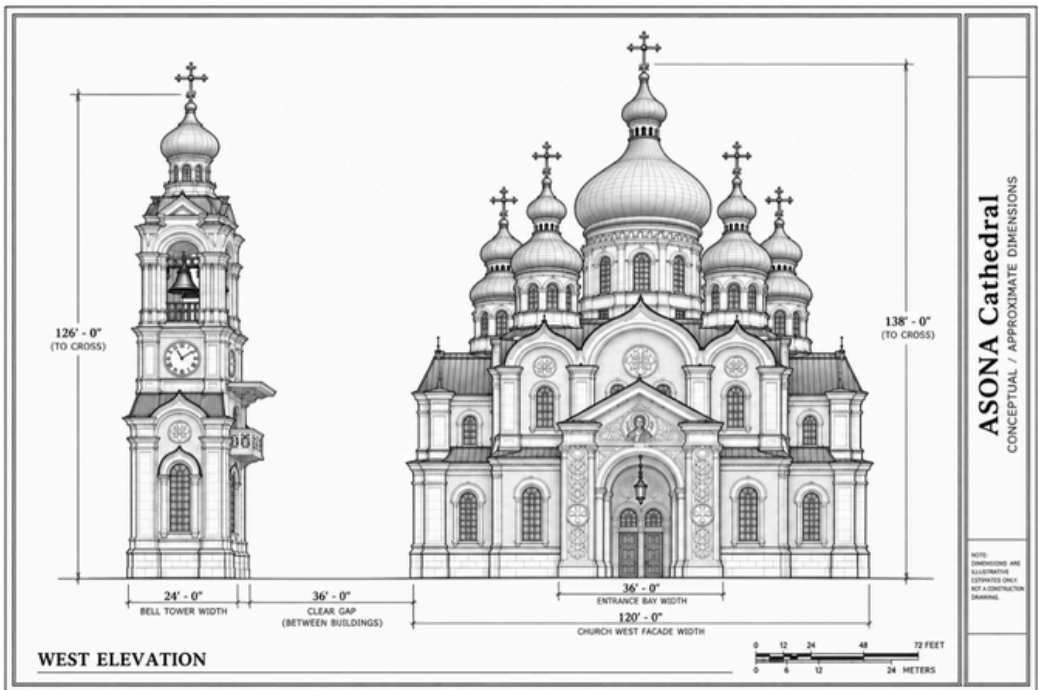
Our Ultimate Goal

We see the changed lives, the healings, and the transfigured souls that are our brothers and sisters who come to ASONA. The multitude of children alone compels us to prepare for the future.

We want all of our people to have ample and adequate space for worship, learning, classes, formation, and plain old fellowship with each other. We see this building project as helping us to create facilities that will not only encourage growth, but stimulate it! As more find the Orthodox faith, we will have a place to provide information, spiritual formation, and illumination for decades to come.

Our expansion demands that we prepare for not just a larger building, but the physical infrastructure for the wave of new growth which is only beginning in America, and Arizona. We need a beautiful temple, ample fellowship areas, class rooms, offices, meeting spaces – and more! Yes, a fully stocked large Orthodox bookstore, a teen respite area, a Coffee shop and ample space to meet and hang out on the Church grounds, during the week even if nothing else is happening. We need a permanent baptismal font, outdoor play area (with summer splash pad!) and a consecrated graveyard for Orthodox Christians who need to be laid to rest in consecrated ground.

Initially we are preparing to build a large building with the sanctuary on one side, and a fellowship area on the other. Simple but effective, and will provide the foundation for future development as well!



THE HOW

To see this vision as a reality, we need you, campers! YOU ARE ASONA!

We are depending on your excellent habit of being responsible adult Christians, doing what is right when you see it, to attract the generosity needed to construct these new facilities. This is something that no one person can do for us, but together everyone can do it!

We're asking your household to make a three year pledge to the "A Positive Past – A Fantastic Future" campaign. We know that the Lord is faithful and generous. He will not be outdone by us!

This commitment, we understand, will look different to every family. The guide that follows will help you and your family through a week of asking God to inspire and lead you 'out of your comfort zone,' when it comes to giving. Cheerfully generous. Painfully generous? Is it possible not to grow under such an extension of faith?

Nothing is small or insignificant. Your commitments, your sacrifices – however large or small – are powerful and ALL make a significant impact. Still none of us can do it alone. Only together can we obtain the reward of wise, and faithful stewards. We know God loves a cheerful giver, and rewards those who seek Him!

Let no one turn away from this common effort of ours. Let us all reap the floodgate of blessings which follow such expressions of faith!

YOUR SACRIFICIAL IMPACT

08

WEEKLY SACRIFICES:

Coffee on The Way to Church	\$5	\$780 over 3 years
Chick-fil-a for lunch	\$12	\$1,872 over 3 years
Plan a FREE date night event	\$50	\$7,800 over 3 years

MONTHLY SACRIFICES:

Netflix Subscription	\$15	\$540 over 3 years
Have a Friend to Cut your Hair	\$25	\$900 over 3 years
Car Wash Subscription	\$40	\$1,440 over 3 years
Live TV	\$100	\$3,600 over 3 years

ONE-TIME SACRIFICES:

- Pass on your next phone upgrade and designate the money you save monthly toward the campaign.
- Pass on event tickets (concert, show, sports game, etc.) and instead designate that money toward the campaign.
- Enjoy a family “staycation” rather than planning an out of town trip.

Using this Prayer Guide

Use this Prayer Guide each day with your family or alone. Begin by praying to understand God's Word. Look up and read the Scripture verse. Answer the questions through discussion, use of a journal or meditation. Close in prayer. Trust that God will speak to you through His Word.

Use the Family Conference section sometime during the week of November 10-16, as the Connecting Faith to the Future campaign draws to a close. Allow God to direct you and other family members as you determine your financial commitment. Set aside a specific time free of normal distractions to discuss, read, and pray according to the guidelines given in the Family Conference section. Ask God to reveal to you how He wants you to respond to the needs of our church.

Where to Begin

This prayer guide is an opportunity for your whole family to pray and understand how God wants your family to be invested in the life of our church. While this campaign is encouraging you to pray about your financial investment into the life of our church, our desire is that you would also sacrificially give your time and abilities to our church as an act of worship and obedience to our Lord. As you use this prayer guide with your family, consider explaining to your family why you are committing to these seven days of prayer as a family.

Your explanation might go something like this:

"We have been asked as families in our church to prepare for a time of giving and discovering God's plan for us and our church."

For seven days, we're going to share a daily Bible verse, questions, and a prayer as a church to help each family discern how God wants us to give of our time, talents, and treasures to our church.

Yes, it's that simple.

The four key elements for every day are:

1. **Opening prayer:** Through God's enlightenment, invited in prayer, the Bible is simple enough for anyone to understand, even children. Without God's enlightenment, the greatest mind in the universe cannot hope to understand the truth in its pages.
2. **Scripture:** God's Word is truth, and God's Word is life giving. God's Word is valuable, worth more than any words offered by man.
3. **Questions:** God's Word is practical and applicable to our lives and decisions. Reading the Bible is not a spectator sport, but one in which God invites you to examine what He is saying and apply it to your life.
4. **Closing Prayer:** No man has the power to change his own heart. Change takes place in our lives only by asking God to accomplish in us what He desires.

Reading the Bible and praying each day are compared in Scripture to eating daily bread. Just as you can be nourished by both a light snack and a seven-course dinner, so can God honor five minutes or an hour that you spend with Him. As you grow in Him, you will want, rather than feel forced, to spend more time with Him. Trust Him and be faithful to meet Him every day.

Day 01

Christ's Love Transforms My Heart

PRAY: Lord, open my heart to Thy Word and Thy will.

READ: “So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God” (Ephesians 3:17-19).

CONSIDER: 1. What change occurs in my heart where Christ lives?
2. In what ways can God fill up the deficiency of my soul?

PRAY: Lord, capture and grip my heart!

REFLECT: _____

Day 02

Christ's Love Transforms the Church

PRAY: Lord, open my heart to Thy Word and Thy will.

READ: "... Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her; so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless" (Ephesians 5:25-27).

CONSIDER:

1. What does Christ do for the church that she cannot do for herself?
2. What personal strengths or strategies do I tend to rely on for spiritual change, rather than the transforming love of Christ?

PRAY: Lord, let me experience Thy transforming love.

REFLECT: _____

Day 03

Christ's Love Transforms the World

PRAY: Lord, open my heart to Thy Word and Thy will.

READ: “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him” (John 3:16-17).

CONSIDER: 1. What was God's desire in sending Jesus to the world?
2. When I am not aware of or concerned for the lost, what am I forgetting?

PRAY: Lord, pour Thy love for the world into my heart.

REFLECT: _____

Day 04

Christ's Kingdom is Everything

PRAY: Lord, open my heart to Thy Word and Thy will.

READ: “The Kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field. which a man found and hid; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it” (Matthew 13:44-46).

CONSIDER: 1. How valuable is the kingdom of heaven?
2. Which do I treasure more: the kingdom of heaven or the treasures of this world?

PRAY: Lord, show me the worth of Thy kingdom and increase its value to me.

REFLECT: _____

Day 05

Joining the Work of the Kingdom

PRAY: Lord, open my heart to Thy Word and Thy will.

READ: “What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits toward me? I shall lift up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord” (Psalm 116:12-13).

CONSIDER:

1. Why doesn't the psalmist suggest a monetary or material payment to God?
2. Why are lifting up the cup of salvation and calling on the name of the Lord paired together?
3. What is one way I can lift up the cup of salvation?

PRAY: Lord, make me one who lifts up the cup of salvation and calls upon Thy name in gratitude for all Thy have done for me.

REFLECT: _____

Day 06

The Way of the Kingdom

PRAY: Lord, open my heart to Thy Word and Thy will.

READ: “Now this I say, he who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully. Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed” (2 Corinthians 9:6-8).

CONSIDER:

1. Who or what might motivate a person who has “purposed in his heart” to give?
2. What about a person who gives “grudgingly or under compulsion”?
3. How will I purpose in my heart to give in faith as God directs?

PRAY: Lord, help me to rely on Thee alone to prompt and provide for my giving.

REFLECT: _____

Day 07

The Heart of the Kingdom

PRAY: Lord, open my heart to Thy Word and Thy will.

READ: “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see... And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him” (Hebrews 11:1,6).

CONSIDER: 1. Is it possible to please God? How?
2. How does God want me to trust Him right now?

PRAY: Lord, strengthen my faith that I may please Thee.

REFLECT: _____

Family Conference

The purpose of a family conference is to determine what God is leading your family to offer to the “A Positive Past – A Fantastic Future” campaign. We encourage your family to set aside time between November 1-7. Commitments will be turned in on November 8.

Preparation:

1. Participate in the preceding devotions in this guide trusting God to prepare the hearts of your family members to give sacrificially.
2. Set a time for the conference, free of distraction, for the family to meet, pray, study and discuss what your financial commitment will be (approx. 30-60 min).
3. Ask each family member to begin thinking of decisions that will affect the final amount to give.

Suggested Steps:

1. The leader (preferably the head of the household) should begin with prayer, thanking God for his blessings, his love, and the gift of our parish home.
2. If needed, talk about commitments the family could make in order to give to God through the “A Positive Past – A Fantastic Future” campaign now and over the next three years. Be sure to include each child so that every family member has the opportunity to experience the joy and responsibility of rendering gifts to God.
3. Spend time praying as a family. Pray the Paraklesis together and each offer thanks for something good in their lives.
 - Thank and praise God
 - Ask God for direction and help in making a family decision according to His will.
4. Compare God's principles for giving with the ideas your family has come up with. Add any other suggestions that anyone offers.
5. Decide as a family what you will give and, with prayer and thanksgiving, fill out your commitment card.
6. Close in a prayer of thanks to God, asking Him to provide for your family as you walk forward in faith, asking Him to give you joy in giving and thanking Him for what He has done and will do.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q:** Why pledges over three years? Even if total pledges over three years cover the total cost of project, with a one-year or so timeline from breaking ground to completion, won't this mean the church will have to take out a mortgage?
- A:** Three years is a typical giving timeline for a building project to spread giving over more time. Until pledges are totaled, we won't know about a potential mortgage, but it is likely that a mortgage will be needed along with a construction loan during the project.
- Q:** In a church capital campaign like this, what percentage of pledges are actually received?
- A:** According to our campaign consultant, an average of 93% of pledges are honored.
- Q:** Who will see the amount I/we pledge?
- A:** Like any giving to the church, that information is considered confidential and will only be seen by those responsible for recording this information in the database used by the church.

- Q:** Will there be periodic reminders of pledge amounts still outstanding for individual giving households (not units)?
- A:** we will send out periodic updates with progress of church-wide giving towards “A Positive Past – A Fantastic Future”.
- Q:** Is there a digital commitment card I can fill out, instead of a physical card?
- A:** Unfortunately no; our church software does not have an option for this.
- Q:** When are commitment cards to be turned in and to whom?
- A:** Any time during the campaign up to and including on Commitment Sunday (Nov. 17). Cards can be dropped in offering baskets on the way out of the Worship Center or turned into the Church Office M-Th between 8:20AM and 4:30PM.
- Q:** Can I give to the building project online?
- A:** Yes, use the same process you use for general giving but designate to “A Positive Past – A Fantastic Future” fund.



ALL SAINTS
OF NORTH AMERICA