



Immaculate of Heart of Mary Oratory

Institute of Christ the King Sovereign King

Tradition for Tomorrow

*Prayer of Our Pilgrim Oratory:
O Lord, provide us a permanent location where we can worship you.*

September 2022

Update/Development Fund Pledge drive

In our [December 2021](#) and [June 2022](#) updates we recounted the journey of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Oratory as we wandered throughout locations in Santa Clara Valley to our present home at 1101 Winchester Blvd, Bldg. C, San Jose, CA. As the address indicates, we are in a renovated office space where we can accommodate our congregation for daily Mass, monthly catechism classes, and Sunday liturgies. Our journey is the definition of the phrase, “the Lord moves in mysterious ways.” We are grateful for our present home and continue to look to the future.

As of today, the Oratory has \$600,000 saved. With contributions from our faithful and generous benefactors we have been able to meet our monthly expenses and save money in the process. As we consider fundraising for the future, we hope to continue to meet our monthly expenses. Presently, our monthly expenses break down in the following manner:

Lease for space	\$ 8,000
Rectory Rent	\$ 4,300
Operational Expenses	\$ 4,200
Monthly donation to the Institute	<u>\$ 1,500</u>
Total Monthly expenses	\$18,000

Silicon Valley, as you can see from our monthly expenses, is very costly. The monthly leases will likely increase yearly, as will other expenses. We pay our monthly costs from the collection money each Sunday. If we fall short of the \$18,000 a month, we must pay the difference from the Oratory’s savings.

Our ultimate goal is to find a more permanent church building, consecrated and decorated as is appropriate to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Renting an entire church may be a possibility, but we have not found any available options within our diocese. Also, our recent research shows that a realistic purchase price for a decent property would be \$4,000,000 (Hopefully, this would also include living accommodations for the clergy). However, these properties don’t come up very often, and if there were one, we would need to have at least **half** of a down payment saved up before we could request approval from the diocese to move forward with a purchase.



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Over the last 16 weeks, we collected an average of \$6,000 each Sunday. About \$3,400 of this is from regular donations and the monthly 2nd collection, where the remaining contributions come from the development fund and online donations. If donations continue at this level, we will collect \$26,000 per month. After deducting our estimated monthly expenses, we could optimally save an additional \$8,000 per month. This would mean an additional \$192,000 saved over the next two years. This amount will certainly help but won't get us across the finish line.

Our strategy in achieving this goal is two-pronged. First, we will do what we can **locally** by promoting this Pledge Drive, having an End-of-Year Matching fundraiser, and community fundraisers like the Bocce Ball dinner. Secondly, we will broaden our scope to the **larger ICKSP family and beyond** by producing a video which will document our journey and our desire in obtaining a permanent home. A promising sign is that the video we created back in March of 2018 has garnered almost 30K views. Once this video is completed, sharing this YouTube video with your family and friends would help to promote our cause.

We are asking that each family pledge *what they can* for the next two years to help this development campaign. If our Oratory families increase their weekly/monthly contribution by \$20 or more, this will help in achieving our financial goals.

We have included a chart on the pledge cards, to demonstrate how much specific pledges would cost you over two years on an annual, bi-annual, monthly, and weekly basis. Any amount you feel you can pledge will be welcome and will help build our *Tradition for Tomorrow* Development Fund.

If you know anyone who would be open to donating, please let me or a fundraising committee member know. We are very thankful to all of you, for your prayers, financial support and friendship.

I know that our goal of finding a permanent location may seem daunting, but God sees our efforts and will make them fruitful in His good time. We live in interesting times and are on a great journey toward eternity. I take comfort in the realization that God knows what we are facing and will protect and guide us for His greater glory and honor.

Sincerely yours in Christo Rege,
Canon Raphael Ueda
Priest of the Institute of Christ the King
Rector of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Oratory
San José, California, USA