

Saint Brendan the Navigator Parish
Pre-Campaign Study: Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is a pre-campaign study?

A pre-campaign study is a thorough and detailed assessment of a parish community's willingness and capacity to move forward with a capital fundraising endeavor.

2. Why do we need a pre-campaign study?

It is imperative for any parish that wishes to have a capital campaign to raise funds for major capital improvements to conduct a feasibility study to determine if parishioners are willing and able to support it. The final report will validate the proposed projects and legitimize the effort amongst the parish community.

3. What type of questions are asked?

Ultimately, the pre-campaign study tells us who we are as a parish. Topics will include the strengths and weaknesses of the parish and its leadership, receptivity toward the proposed projects, willingness to make a pledge commitment, and willingness to volunteer for the campaign.

4. Who participates in the pre-campaign study?

EVERY parish family will be given a chance to participate. Some families will be asked to participate in one-on-one interviews or focus groups, and ALL families will be asked to complete a survey available both electronically and in-pew.

5. Why are some families asked to interview or attend a focus group?

Families that have been parishioners for a long period of time, are involved in leadership, or are very supportive of the parish, are asked to interview because they are generally able to provide thorough and detailed information about parish history, current parish issues, and are usually able to properly evaluate necessary leadership potential in a capital campaign.

6. Who is conducting the pre-campaign study?

Ruotolo Associates, a philanthropic consulting firm based in Ridgewood, NJ, with over 45 years of experience working with Catholic organizations, has been retained to conduct the study. We determined that Ruotolo Associates' methodology best matched the needs of our parish community.

7. How long will the pre-campaign study take, and will we see the results?

The study will be conducted in May and June. The report will be presented in July. After the final report is presented, an update on the status of the capital campaign will be provided to all parishioners.