



CRANE AND CAGE USED TO BEGIN THE FIRST PHASE OF CONSTRUCTION ON THE SANCTUARY

CHRIST CATHEDRAL MARKS KEY MILESTONES IN FIRST YEARS AS GLOBAL CATHOLIC CENTER

REPRODUCED FROM THE OC CATHOLIC

Just four years after acquiring the world-renowned Crystal Cathedral property, the Diocese of Orange is well on the way to transforming its 35 acres into Christ Cathedral, the spiritual and physical center for Catholics and other pilgrims near and far. Despite some challenges, including the complexity of the renovation projects on the seven buildings, an accelerated timeline and ambitious fundraising goals, a number of major milestones have been reached.

Crystal Cathedral Ministries' sooner-than-expected decision to relocate and lease the property at the former St. Callistus Catholic Church required the renovation of the Arboretum, Large and Small Galleries and the Tower of Hope at Christ Cathedral in order to accommodate the parishioners, who quickly formed the foundation of the new Christ Cathedral Parish. Mass is now celebrated daily at the renovated Arboretum and more than 11,000 people attend 11 weekend Masses offered in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Chinese. Restoring and modernizing the 50-year old structures required seismic strengthening and the installation of an innovative underground air conditioning system. The restoration of the Arboretum has won numerous architectural awards.

The administrative offices of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Orange, the Orange Catholic Foundation, and many diocesan ministries moved from the former Marywood Pastoral Center campus in Orange to the newly renovated Diocesan Pastoral Center on the cathedral campus.

- In 2013, St. Callistus School also moved successfully and on time into its new home next door in the Pastoral Center, becoming Christ Cathedral Academy.

During the 2015-2016 school year, more than 300 students in preschool through grade 8 attended Christ Cathedral Academy.



- Several small chapels have been dedicated and are in daily use throughout the campus, including the Chapel in the Sky at the top of the Tower of Hope, the Unity and Reconciliation Chapel in honor of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange in the Cathedral Cultural Center, and a new Oratory in the Diocesan Pastoral Center.

- John A. Romeri, former director of liturgical music for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, was recently hired as the first Christ Cathedral Director of Music Ministries. Dr. Romeri will lead the development of Christ Cathedral parish's music program and the liturgical music program that will support major diocesan celebrations.

- A special tabernacle designed by the late Eginio Weinert has been acquired for the future Blessed Sacrament Chapel and commemorated by Tim & Steph Busch

- An 18th century painting by a Mexican priest of the original image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of the Diocese of Orange and the Americas, was donated by a generous benefactor.

- The cathedral's Hazel Wright Organ -- one of the most famous musical instruments in the world, which was sorely in need of a thorough rehabilitation, was shipped to its original manufacturer in Padua, Italy for restoration and will return to Orange County in 2016. "Hazel" will be stored until the Christ Cathedral Sanctuary is completed in 2018 and the organ can be reinstalled.

Bishop Vann marked the beginning of the first phase of construction on the Christ Cathedral Sanctuary in December 2015 with the blessing of workers and a large crane. The more-than-10,600 panes of reflective glass are being removed, reconditioned and remounted. This is a critical first step prior to construction within the Cathedral's gleaming reflective skin and will take eight to 10 months to complete.

- Perhaps most notable among the many milestones reached by Christ Cathedral and the Orange Catholic Foundation is the successful fundraising efforts. Through the For Christ Forever Campaign launched in 57 parishes in 2013-2014, followed by the "Capstone" phase of the campaign in 2014-2015, more than \$110 million in gifts and pledges have been raised for all campaign case elements (education, priests' retirement, parish share, and Christ Cathedral). Thanks to the generosity of more than 24,000 families and donors, more than \$61 million has been granted to all case elements through December 31, 2015. This includes \$37 million in grants made by the Orange Catholic Foundation to the Christ Catholic Cathedral Corporation for the renovation and restoration of the seven buildings on the Christ Cathedral campus.

During 2016-2017, the Orange Catholic Foundation will continue to work with Bishop Vann and Fr. Christopher Smith to raise an additional \$16 to \$20 million in new pledges to supplement the generous contributions from the many donors who continue to support our capital campaigns in order to help complete the renovation of the Christ Cathedral sanctuary.

"We have done an amazing amount of work in a small amount of time," said Father Christopher Smith, Rector and Episcopal Vicar of Christ Cathedral. "This is a cathedral in progress, and we want to keep moving forward," Father Smith added. "It is a beautiful campus and will only become more breathtaking as our transformation moves steadily forward and continues to lift people's minds and hearts to God, like the beauty of music and painting."

For further information or to make your gift to support the capital campaign, please contact the Orange Catholic Foundation at (714) 282-3021 or email cbobruk@orangeatholicfoundation.org.

● ARBORETUM

The completely renovated temporary worship space for Christ Cathedral parish offers Mass in English, Vietnamese and Spanish. Known as a titan of mid-century modern architecture, Richard Neutra designed the Arboretum, a 22,288-square-foot structure built in 1962, to serve as the original sanctuary for the Rev. Robert Schuller's congregation. Rev. Schuller would speak to up to 1,400 churchgoers inside the Arboretum, and walk outside on the balcony to address additional congregants parked in 500 cars, just as he used to do at the drive-in theatre where he first preached. Because of the age and delicate state of the Arboretum, diocesan crews took it down to steel and dirt and conducted extensive renovations, including the creation of an innovative and energy-efficient underground air conditioning system. Also completed were seismic strengthening, glass replacement, landscaping and other aesthetic renovations. Since every element was specifically designed by the original architect, the diocese studied archival records to ensure that every dimension and pane of glass matched original specifications. Completed in just six months, the Arboretum's amazing renovation has won several awards. Currently used as a worship space by Christ Cathedral parishioners, it will function as their home church until the future Christ Cathedral is completed.



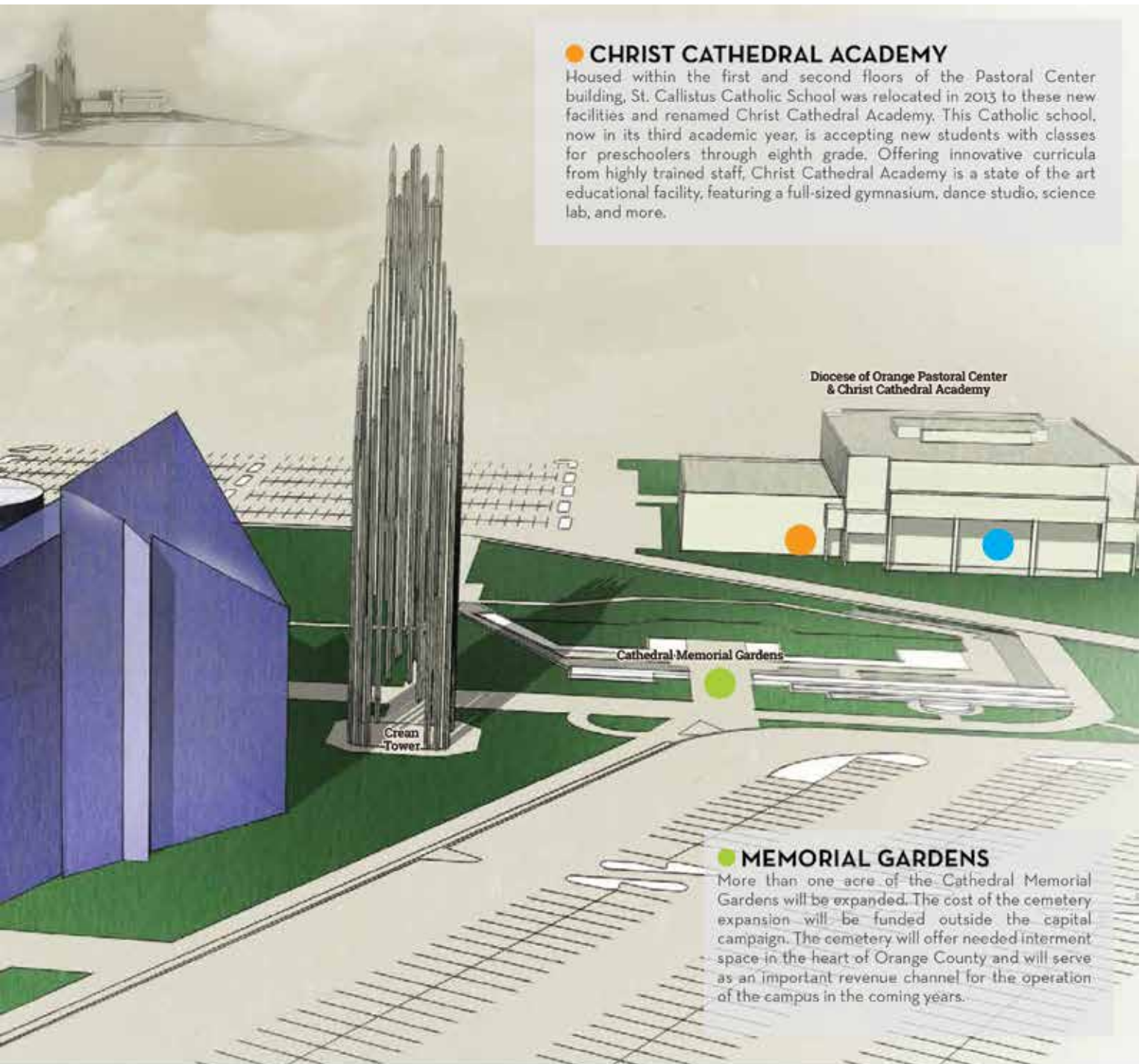
● CHRIST CATHEDRAL SANCTUARY

Phase One of the renovation will address the worship level of the Cathedral. In December of 2015, Bishop Vann blessed the workers, glass, and crane as the process of restoring all 10,660 window frames began. Construction on the interior of the Sanctuary is scheduled to begin in early 2017 and will conclude by the end of 2018.

A CAMPUS IN TRANSITION

- TOTAL SIZE OF CAMPUS: 35 ACRES
- TOTAL NUMBER OF BUILDINGS: 7
- TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE: MORE THAN 320,000
- TOTAL PARKING: MORE THAN 1,650 SPACES

Over the past four years, the Christ Cathedral campus has quickly become a beautiful, updated and vibrant center for our Diocese. Beginning in January of 2012 with the renovation of the Arboretum and Neutra complex to ready the facility for the more than 10,000 parishioners from St. Callistus Parish, the transformation and restoration of the campus has moved quickly forward. The Arboretum renovation was begun earlier than planned because Crystal Cathedral Ministries departed the campus two years ahead of schedule and was completed in just six short months. The ambitious work completed on the Neutra-designed building has been recognized with a Modernism in America Citation of Merit from Docomomo US and an award from the American Institute of Architects. The Pastoral Center, Christ Cathedral Academy, and Tower of Hope have all been completed and staff, students and faculty have moved into their offices and classrooms.



● CHRIST CATHEDRAL ACADEMY

Housed within the first and second floors of the Pastoral Center building, St. Callistus Catholic School was relocated in 2013 to these new facilities and renamed Christ Cathedral Academy. This Catholic school, now in its third academic year, is accepting new students with classes for preschoolers through eighth grade. Offering innovative curricula from highly trained staff, Christ Cathedral Academy is a state-of-the-art educational facility, featuring a full-sized gymnasium, dance studio, science lab, and more.

Diocese of Orange Pastoral Center
& Christ Cathedral Academy

Cathedral Memorial Gardens

Crean
Tower

● MEMORIAL GARDENS

More than one acre of the Cathedral Memorial Gardens will be expanded. The cost of the cemetery expansion will be funded outside the capital campaign. The cemetery will offer needed interment space in the heart of Orange County and will serve as an important revenue channel for the operation of the campus in the coming years.

● TOWER OF HOPE

Designed by Richard Neutra and his son Dion, the 13-story Tower of Hope first opened in 1968. Named after New Hope Ministries, this building housed the very first 24-hour suicide prevention hotline (714-NEW-HOPE), which today continues under the auspices of Catholic Charities of Orange County. Topped by a 90-foot neon-lit cross, the Tower of Hope was the tallest building in Orange County at its opening and held this distinction for over 10 years. On the top floor is the 130-seat ecumenical Chapel in the Sky, with breathtaking panoramic views of Orange County. The Tower of Hope has undergone a \$6 million renovation and seismic upgrade and houses the offices of the Cathedral Parish and Christ Catholic Cathedral Corp., the entity that manages the extensive Christ Cathedral site. EWTN Global Catholic Network also has its West Coast television news and broadcast facility located here, and the newly minted Diocesan radio production facility is located in the tower. The ninth floor of the tower houses executive office suites for worldwide Catholic ministries, including the Augustine Institute, Magis Institute, Dynamic Catholic, Pontifical Mission Society, and other leading organizations.

● THE PASTORAL CENTER

The doors opened to this building in 1990, at a cost of \$25 million. Designed by Gin Wong and Associates, the former Family Life Center served for many years as the Crystal Cathedral Academy. Featuring 132,000 square feet, the third and fourth floors now house the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange Pastoral Center, home to the offices of The Most Reverend Kevin Vann, Bishop of Orange, and the ministries of the diocese. These offices were originally located at Marywood in the city of Orange and moved to these new facilities in 2013. The first and second floors are now home to the Cathedral Academy, a state-of-the-art educational facility. Gin Wong and Associates are also known for designing the Arco Tower and Midnight Mission in Los Angeles, as well as working on the futuristic Theme Building at LAX.