The Casa Builds A New Home
Franciscan Renewal Center

The Casa de Paz y Bien has attended to the peace and good of the community since 1951 when all roads that led to the retreat were only dirt. Founded by Franciscan friars ten years before the Town of Paradise Valley would officially incorporate, the 25-acre site has become an internationally known place of spiritual contemplation, prayer and learning. In fact, the extensive campus remains a unique county island, somehow escaping the influences of well-heeled PV neighbors who have enveloped the stunning site on all sides.

Tucked at the base of Mummy Mountain and graced by the shadows of Camelback Mountain, the retreat has grown to serve those seeking spiritual guidance and education. There are meeting spaces, accommodations and plenty of outdoor areas such as a healing garden and labyrinth. The Casa has hosted a number of popular classes and workshops dealing with everything from grief
to yoga. For generations, the Franciscan Renewal Center has been a place of healing for the faithful and even the questioning.

In 2011 the Casa launched the Renewing Lives campaign which will tackle issues of upgrading the infrastructure of several current buildings. A new 17,500-square-foot church with 600 seats will be built on the campus facing Lincoln Drive. The church design by Westlake Reed Leskosky will feature massive art glass windows and sculpture. The liturgical experience will be enhanced by state-of-the-art sound and lighting systems. Keeping to the Casa’s desert setting, xeriscaping and the use of native plants will be observed.

The groundbreaking of this massive undertaking will occur in January with a public event and kickoff.

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www.thecasa.org