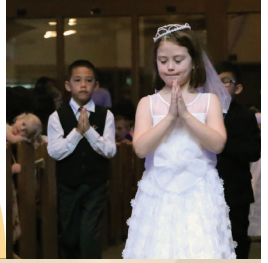


FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CELEBRATE
the Sacraments...
A NEW
Beginning
FOR THE FAMILY

A Campaign for St. Mary Catholic Parish



HOW WILL THE NAVE AND WORSHIP AREA CHANGE?

The most noticeable changes appear to be the relocation of the choir loft and organ. Other plans focus on building or updating the following: apse and sanctuary predella; baldachino, skylight, *via sacra* floor (main aisle) and the lobby.

WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO MOVE THE CHOIR LOFT?

Catholic architecture dictates that we must reserve the sanctuary for the ministers of the Mass: bishops, priests, deacons, acolytes, readers and cantors. Placing the choir in view of the congregation distracts attendees, as the members appear to present a concert instead of fulfilling a component of the Mass. As stated in the document of the "Catholic Bishops in America, *Built of Living Stones: Art, Architecture and Worship*":

"The placement of the choir should never crowd or overshadow the other ministers in the sanctuary nor should it distract from the liturgical action."



During our August planning study, parishioners posed a few questions about leadership's plans to renovate various features of the campus at St. Mary Catholic Parish. This document serves to answer those key questions. If others arise, I encourage you to contact myself or the Director of Business Operations, Sarah Norton.

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Fr. Javier Nieva, DCJM
Pastor

WHY IS IT NECESSARY TO MAKE THESE CHANGES?

As expressed during the homily at the Marian Festival on Sept. 10, our attention this year is on rejoicing in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist, gifts that, as years pass, most of us may take for granted. With this goal as the foundation, parish leadership identified the necessary physical changes guaranteed to return the worship experience to a more traditional form. Doing so, provides us the opportunity to stay true to our campaign theme: *Celebrate the Sacraments...A New Beginning for the Family*.

WHAT DOES ARCHBISHOP AQUILA THINK OF OUR PLANS?

Archbishop Aquila offers his full support of our project. He understands our desire to grow and improve as a community in Christ and believes we directed our focus for growth in the right areas.

HOW WILL THE CHANGES IMPROVE THE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE?

The changes will bring the attention at Mass back to where it should be, on the presence of God among us. Now, with changes and upgrades – the choir repositioned and serving to assist in worship, and a new *via sacra* reminding us of the connection between the baptismal font and the altar – our worship will focus once again on the true meaning of the Mass: growing our relationship with God.

(over)



WILL WE ADDRESS OTHER CHURCH AND CAMPUS PROJECTS?

Yes. We packaged our needs in tiers, based upon reaching levels of campaign funding.

Goal I: Replace an aging, inefficient boiler; build a new staircase to Marian Hall; replace the skylight (above the nave) and a portion of the roof; upgrade the rectory and school; and update the pastoral center. We'll also designate \$250,000 of pledged support to a maintenance fund to prepare St Mary for unexpected financial needs.

Goal II: Improve efficiency by restructuring the narthex/gathering space, sacristy, and confessionals. Plans also call for the renovating/ updating of the Marian Hall Kitchen, adding lights to the parking lot and re-engineering the area to improve drainage to reduce ice and improve safety. If we raise enough support to reach **Goal III**, we'll build a new ministry center.

WHAT'S THE COST OF THIS PROJECT?

The estimated total project cost is \$11 million tiered as the following goals:

- Goal 1 - \$5.5 million *Celebration Goal*
Sanctuary, skylight and roof, vestibule staircase, rectory, parish offices and school
- Goal 2 - \$2.5 million (*estimated*) *Challenge Goal*
Vestibule, confession chapel, Marian Hall kitchen, parking lot and lighting
- Goal 3 - \$3 million (*estimated*) *Victory Goal*
Future Masterplan Goal for two-story Ministry Center

WHAT'S THE PROCESS FOR SEEING THIS BECOME A REALITY?

We've accomplished a lot over the last six months. We recruited a building committee to define our needs, hosted information sessions to gather parishioner input, hired an architect to design plans, and conducted a planning study to give us an idea of parish support. On December 13, we'll present our plans to the Project Financing Review Committee (PFRC) of the Archdiocese of Denver. Upon approval, we'll move into a six-month capital campaign to begin the process of raising the funds needed to address campus renovations. We anticipate most parishioners needing three years to fulfill their commitment.

CONFUSED ABOUT GIFT OF TREASURE VS. CAPITAL CAMPAIGN?

Let's get some clarity around these two very important events. The **Gift of Treasure** campaign, our annual stewardship drive, is happening right now through the end of the year! This campaign is about providing for the day-to-day needs of the parish by consistently and regularly giving back to God from the financial gifts that He has given you.

The **capital campaign** (*Celebrate the Sacraments...A New Beginning for the Family*) is about updating or improving our campus and, most importantly, refocusing our attention on the sacraments through changes in the sanctuary. After the New Year, we will begin preparing for the six-month campaign. In due time, leadership will ask all of us to make a sacrificial gift that is over and above our regular Gift of Treasure. If you still have questions, please contact the Director of Business Operations, Sarah Norton, at 720.283.4732 or snorton@stmarylitleton.org.

WHEN WILL CONSTRUCTION BEGIN?

Our current plan is to start construction in August 2020 and complete by August 2021. But this depends upon our response to our campaign. According to archdiocesan policy, the parish must receive \$2,750,000 of the Goal I project total in cash along with \$2,750,000 in pledges reserved for the project before breaking ground.