

ST. MARY'S UNITES FOR A SUCCESSFUL CAPITAL PROJECT CAMPAIGN

St. Mary's began its Church Restoration project in February of 2025, when we painted the Sanctuary using monies provided by the Centennial Fund and several donors. This was followed by the official launch of the "Let's Restore St. Mary's Church Interior" Capital Project Campaign at the beginning of April 2025. In less than 30 days, we not only met our pledge goal of \$500,000, but we exceeded it. This was thanks to all of you, Ted and Cindy Menzel's leadership and our staff's hard work.

By the end of the summer, Midwest Sound had installed the new Parish Center sound system and Prime Secured was working on security upgrades including installing parish campus cameras and a key card system for the Church, St. Mark's Hall and the Rectory. The decision was made to wait until after Christmas to start the rest of the restoration based on contractor scheduling and the delivery of the new pews.

Work began inside the church on Monday January 12th after the 8:00am Mass. Masses and Reconciliation were relocated to the Narthex, Parish Center and St. Mark's Hall. That week, the pews were removed and parishioners came to pick up a piece of St. Mary's history. At the same time, DeMarco Brothers Co. removed and cleaned the altar, ambo, presiders' chairs and tabernacle stand. Next, Traco Incorporated painted the sacristy, choir room and back hallway. Several crews worked on removing the top level platform of the sanctuary to allow the tabernacle to be moved to the middle of the sanctuary and the refinishing of the original tile. Finally, came the installation of the new flooring, new pews and new sound system as well as renovation of the choir room.

By March 7th, we were back in our beautiful new worship space for daily and weekend services with a few finishing touches to be completed. These last steps included mounting our Mary and Joseph statues on the sanctuary wall, installing new stone pieces for the altar top, tabernacle stand, and credence table to match our ambo and the presider's chair, and receiving black iron candlesticks for the sanctuary to match the original Kacmarcik candlesticks.

The final expenditure total for the many aspects of this restoration project did exceed our initial projection of \$500,000. Fortunately, through the 265 pledges from our generous parishioners, we raised \$761,118.75 throughout the past year. This means that the entire project from start to finish was fully funded without St. Mary's incurring any debt. The outpouring of support for this project was evident in the treasure shared, the excitement shown, the prayers said and the patient cooperation given to make this plan a reality in just 14 months. We were able to complete all aspects of this project and celebrate in our beautifully restored worship space by Easter.

What's next? As promised by Fr. Del, any funds raised during this campaign that exceeded the expenditures will be set aside for the renovation of the Parish Center. At this time, we estimate that amount to be about \$124,000. More details about this next Capital Project will be forthcoming in the Fall.



"Let's Restore St. Mary's Church Interior"

Restoration Expenses	Paid
Ratigan Design: Pews, Chairs, Displays & Handrails	\$172,460.00
Church Sound System	\$85,873.00
Security: Cameras, Key Card System & Window Coverings	\$107,117.41
Flooring: Nave, Sanctuary, Confessional, Family Room, Choir Room & Sacristy	\$94,811.20
Painting: Sacristy, Choir Room, Back Stairwell & Sanctuary Touch-ups	\$21,560
Sanctuary Changes: Stone Pieces, Platform Removal, Lights, Tabernacle Move & Candlesticks	\$84,568.33
Project Management & Fundraising Expenses	\$35,053.94
Parish Center Sound System & Tables	\$20,544
Miscellaneous: Dumpster, Cleaning, Organ Tuning, Cry Room Blinds, Choir Room Cabinets & Countertops	\$14,992.57
Totals:	\$636,980.45

We would like to thank everyone that made this restoration project possible. Thank you for the prayers offered, the donations given, the volunteers that helped, the workers that labored, and the staff that organized all of the phases. What a beautiful and generous stewardship of St. Mary's Church and Parish!

