



January 22, 2026

Dear Capital Campaign Donor,

Firstly let me thank you for your generous donation to the erstwhile St. Mary's 'Cathedral Project'. Since we are about to start a campaign for the 'Centennial Project' some of you have asked for an update regarding the current situation regarding the funds that remained from the former campaign.

The 'Cathedral Project' was started in 2017 as a project to renovate and repurpose the former Archbishop's residence and adjacent buildings into a new parish center and other modern facilities. It also covered the renovation of the rectory and associated buildings. It started as a \$15 Million capital campaign, but soon after, it was thought that this figure was unachievable. After 3 different fundraising companies were engaged the last company noted that \$8.5 million was the best we could hope to achieve. Architectural plans were duly change to reflect this new reality.

By 2021 the campaign had stalled due to many external environmental reasons, COVID being one of them. At that time only \$4 million had been pledged and \$2.4 million was collected.

Of the \$2.4 million, \$900,000 was spent on the seismic upgrade at the school and only \$417,000 remained after expenses (architects, engineering, permits, fundraising, marketing etc.) This represents 17% of total monies collected.

It was decided to suspend the campaign in June of 2021. At that time all donors were called individually by the Finance Committee to see if they were willing to have their donations go into a maintenance fund specifically for use on the cathedral building. All but 4 parishioners were happy for their funds to go to building maintenance, \$20,866 was returned to those parishioners. Thus the remainder of \$397,000 was allocated to cathedral maintenance. Where did the \$397,000 go?

Since June 2021 we have spent \$1.4 Million on major maintenance projects - some of which are:

- Major Roof Repairs
- Sacristy Roof Repair
- Water Infiltration Remediation
- Significant Bell Tower Repair
- Lintels above both the Transept Windows
- Boiler Upgrades and Extraordinary Maintenance
- All Stained Glass (Not Transepts & Naves) Repaired
- Main Doors Restoration
- All Exterior Brickwork Cleaned
- All Exterior Paint Work Repainted.
- Courtyard Doors Refinished
- Complete Relamping and LED Replacements

- Pavements on NW Davis Repaired
- Tabernacle Moved to Sanctuary
- New Candle Stand Commissioned and Installed
- 95% of the Interior Walls have been Restored and Repainted
- Major Sacristy Restroom Renovation
- New Communion Kneelers
- Apse Murals Cleaned

The current projects that are waiting to be billed are in the region of \$350,000 so in total about \$1.75 million has been spent in the last 4 years. Most major deferred maintenance projects are completed.

Hence, in addition to the \$397,000 remaining from the 'Cathedral Project' we have spent another \$1.3 million which has been funded by other generous donors during this period; we have not had to take from our savings for these expenses.

I would like to thank our Finance Council and our Facilities Committee who have aided me in addressing these challenges.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Msgr. G. O'Connor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Monsignor Gerard O'Connor,
Rector