

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE CAMPAIGN PRAYER

Almighty God, in your love for us
you have blessed us abundantly.
We glorify you and give you thanks
for all the gifts you have given us...

Our faith. Our lives. Our loved ones.
And especially for the wisdom and love
of our founding members whose example
of sacrifice in time, talent and treasure
continues to bless our parish, our school,
and our homes.

Most of all, we thank you
for your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ
whose sacrifice on the cross
is made present to us in the Eucharist.

Pour out your Spirit upon us;
give us hearts of humility and gratitude.
Help us to live as disciples modeling our lives
after Christ's own pattern of self-giving love.

We humbly ask you to send your Spirit
upon our parish community during this crucial time
as we embark upon a campaign to build upon
the foundation laid by our forebears in faith.

We offer our prayers, joys, works and treasures
to you through the Immaculate Heart of Mary
and we unite them to the sacrifice of Christ.

May our gifts manifest our gratitude and glorify you,
the one God who lives and reigns forever and ever.

AMEN.

ST. CECILIA
Patron of our Campaign
PRAY FOR US!

CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

Father Bruce DeRammelaere
Pastor

Michelle Herrington
Director of Parish Life

Julie Delaney
Director of Development

Ethan Connors
Principal



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Investing IN OUR FAITH

by Celebrating our Past
and Building for the Future

CASE STATEMENT



DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

There is something about art and music that touches the soul. Over the centuries, Catholic artists have created paintings, composed musical pieces, built churches, written novels and poetry, and performed theatre to glorify God. We see evidence of this even in the Mass, from the beautiful buildings we enter, to the statues of the saints in the church, to the music sung by the choir. This art aims to give glory to God, not to the artist. Catholic art recognizes that God, as Creator, is the Divine Artist, and any art that we as His creatures make can bring us closer to Him. As Pope Francis said in *Evangelii Gaudium*, "Every expression of true beauty can thus be acknowledged as a path leading to an encounter with the Lord Jesus."

We also know by numerous tests that students who play a musical instrument do better in math and science scores than those who do not participate in the arts.

Art and music are a path to Jesus and a benefit to the mind, so it can never be seen as frivolous or foolish. Rather, it is something to be cherished, to be grateful for.

If you have sent your child to St. Paul the Apostle School or your child is currently enrolled, you know how we see the importance of our students being engaged in the fine arts and how we need to have a better facility to foster this growth.

Please take time to read this case statement for a new Fine Arts Wing. I ask you to prayerfully consider investing in this campaign and give as generously as you can in communion with those who came before us. As you know God will not be outdone in generosity; he has blessed our parish in a multitude of ways for our sacrifices over the past 100 years. With your support we will continue our mission of living our faith, forming our young, imparting the gospel, and continuing our journey of life-long discipleship. I invite you to join me as together we celebrate our past and build for the future!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Bruce DeRammelaere

HOW *We* GOT HERE

For more than 100 years, St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church has served Catholics in theavenport area by creating a vibrant and active community of faith. In 1909, 36 families met to develop plans for the parish. Now, St. Paul serves more than 1,100 families and enjoys a steady enrollment of over 500 students. As our community has continued to expand and evolve, parishioners have responded generously to meet our growing needs. We must do our part to enhance our parish, school, and faith as we look to our future.

1910
The first Rectory is built

1925
The first classes were held in the church basement

1928
First addition to the school begins, and the convent is built

1957
January 20
Dedication of a new four-classroom addition to the school

JANUARY 25, 1998
Dedication of Denning Hall, the Gathering Space, Early Learning Center, Science Lab, Music Room, and Media Center in the main school building.

2011
St. Paul the Apostle School is awarded the National Blue Ribbon School award.

Summer 2017
Church and School construction and renovations begin.

2022
Gymnasium renovated, and new hardwood floor installed.

2025 – 2026
100th Anniversary of the school celebrated.

1909

MAY 2 - 36 families meet to develop plans for the parish
JULY 4 - The cornerstone for the new church building is laid
DECEMBER 12 - Bishop Davis offers the first Mass

1915

Addition of a new sanctuary, sacristy, and wings on the east and west sides of the church

1926

School is open and run by the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin

1953

Expansion of the nave of the church, new steps, and vestibule are complete

EARLY 1960s

Addition of new offices to the rectory, east wing of the school, and new convent

2008

Completion of the expansion of the early learning program to include the Daycare, music, and band rooms on the second floor of the Early Learning Center, and modifications to several classrooms in the main school.

JULY 5, 2009

Celebratory Mass marking the 100th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the Church.

Fall 2016

Glorifying God in Gratitude and Gift Capital Campaign kicks off.

2023

Scott County Catholic Schools Regional System is formed. Educational Savings Accounts were enacted into Iowa law, providing state funds to Iowa students for tuition at accredited nonpublic K-12 schools.

OUR *Timeline* AND GOALS

In 2013, the parish completed a buildings need assessment, which identified the functional and spatial needs facing our church, office, school, and Early Learning Center. With the information gathered, the committee worked with an architect and a liturgical design firm to finalize a plan.

In June, we conducted a feasibility study. After hearing the positive results of the planning study, parish leaders chose to move forward with the capital campaign, Glorifying God in Gratitude and Gift.

2016 Glorifying God in Gratitude and Gift Campaign Goals:

To advance the mission of our church and school by addressing their key maintenance issues and facility improvements. Our vision accounts for the interests of both parishioners and school families so that all members of our community can continue to grow in their faith.

Celebration Goal - \$2.5 Million
School Total Expense - \$1,289,000

All Completed
Electrical improvements in school - \$615,000
Improve handicap accessibility in school (includes installation of an elevator) - \$335,000
Remodel school office and entrance - \$210,000
Remodel main restrooms in school - \$129,000

Church Total Expense - \$1,211,000 All Completed
Restoration and renovation of the church - \$972,000
Electrical/mechanical improvements in church - \$239,000

Investing IN OUR FAITH by Celebrating our Past and Building for the Future

In 2024, parish and school leadership began to investigate the feasibility of completing the 2013 campus-wide facilities plan. The completion was delayed due to the COVID-19 outbreak and subsequent shutdowns, followed by the Diocesan Upon this Rock capital campaign. A motivating factor in completing the facilities plan was the need to expand our preschool and daycare offerings, and move the fine arts into the main building. The current early learning space limits the number of students we can serve, keeping some parish families from using our preschool and daycare. St. Paul the Apostle is committed to providing high-quality Catholic education from Preschool through 8th grade for all its parish families.

2026 CAMPAIGN *Goal*

4.75 MILLION

Fine Arts Addition to the Main Building

First floor addition to the main building, which will consist of a Vocal Music room, Band room, Band office for lessons, and an instrument storage room.

Second floor addition to the main building, which will consist of an Art room, storage and Kiln rooms, two additional classrooms, and reconfiguration of two current small classrooms to include breakout rooms for small group instruction, a conference room, and faculty bathroom.

All new classrooms will have air conditioning, allowing adjoining classrooms to be air conditioned as well. As part of this project the original building and subsequent additions will also be air conditioned. Air conditioning will allow us to educate the kids in a comfortable setting, and while aspirational in nature, it will put us on par with Catholic Schools within Scott Catholic Country, and increase the number of instructional days we can provide regardless of the heat.

Early Childhood Program

The Early Learning Center's second floor will be remodeled to create appropriate space for additional preschool classrooms, including an egress to meet fire code, allowing for preschool students to be on the second floor.