



Dear Friends,

Since its humble beginnings in the early 1900s, St. Mary on the Hill Catholic Church has been a spiritual home for many families in the Central Savannah River Area. As we reflect on the unique richness of our heritage, we are deeply grateful for God's guidance and the unwavering spirit of generosity that shaped us. As good stewards, we are entrusted with the privilege of carrying forward the legacy of faith and service exemplified by those who have gone before us.

During the past several years, our Finance Council, Pastoral Council, and the Master Planning Committee in collaboration with Cheetham Fletcher Scott Architects, as well as the parish staff and priests, have carefully reviewed the needs of our faith community. All aspects of parish life were considered to determine the best course of action and in the Spring of 2025, all parish families were invited to participate in a survey. Through much discussion and consultation, plans to expand the campus have been formulated. The following pages of this brochure lay out the full scope of our vision which includes moving the Senior Center from the old convent to the New Parish Life Center, adding space for a youth program, modernizing our Mother's Day Out Program, updating our parish offices, adding much needed meeting spaces/capacity for a variety of faith-based activities and enhancing hospitality with improved space for gatherings and events.

Now is the time to take the next step toward accomplishing these plans. As we embark on the **Our Faith Our Future** Capital Campaign, we seek to raise the necessary funds to complete these projects. The capital campaign presents a serious and important challenge. We realize that we will need the support of all our parish family members. By working together, we can help ensure that the St. Mary on the Hill legacy of service to Our Lord, one another, and the wider community will endure for generations to come.

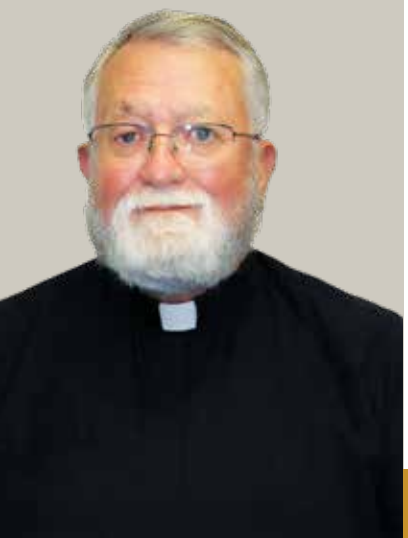
I am confident that through our prayers, sacrifice, and faithfulness, God, who has begun this good work in us, will guide our efforts to a successful completion.

In Christ,



Fr. Mark J. Ross

“Sanctify
Christ as Lord
in your hearts.
Always be
ready to
give an
explanation
to anyone
who asks
you for a
reason for
your hope.”
~ 1 Peter 3:15



Our Challenge



Founded in 1917, St. Mary on the Hill Catholic Church is one of the largest parishes in the Diocese of Savannah and has been blessed with a beautiful church and an active parish. As we look to the future of our community, it is crucial that we continue to shape it together. In recent years, the demand for space has increased substantially. Multiple groups are often vying for the same space, which has become a hindrance to the flourishing of our community. With the significant growth our parish ministries have experienced, we find ourselves at a point where additional facilities are critical.

Recognizing the limitations and inadequacy of our campus facilities, parish leadership developed a master plan to resolve the identified issues. Acquiring the property on McDowell Street, just east of our sanctuary, was key to unlocking new possibilities in our plan development. This property acquisition in the Spring of 2022 afforded us much greater flexibility in devising the optimal plan for the use of our land on the block where the main church is located. The new proposed structure(s) address our long held but deferred wishes and present opportunities for all parishioners: from our youngest children through our seniors.

Our Vision

First, and foremost, a 24,440 square-foot Parish Life Center will be constructed on the recently acquired property beside the church on McDowell Street. The 13,600 square-foot first floor will consist of a small conference room, a small activity room, a large activity room/senior center, a warming kitchen, new offices, a reception area, a break room, four classrooms, an infant room, a preschool workroom, storage rooms, and restrooms. The 10,840 square-foot second floor of the Parish Life Center will consist of a large meeting room, a large conference room, a small meeting room, a Bible study room, a music rehearsal room, youth activity space, a youth activity lounge, additional storage space and restrooms. An outdoor playground will be developed behind the new building. Areas for potential future expansion will be preserved on both sides of the playground.

Second, the existing parish office building will be removed and ground cleared to accommodate the footprint for the next project. A courtyard/greenspace will be nestled between the existing parish hall and the New Social Hall. The old and the new buildings will be connected with an open-air corridor. The 12,230 square-foot New Social Hall will be constructed on Monte Sano Avenue in the location of the existing offices and the lot beside the offices. The central area of the New Social Hall is a 448-seat capacity flex space, which can host banquets or other large parish functions. An important feature of the hall is a commercial kitchen with a complementary pantry room and a storage room. A bride room with separate restroom facility will be positioned near the main entrance/gathering area at the front of the hall for convenient access. Additional restrooms will be located on the opposite side of the gathering area as well as the back end of the hall.



The substantial investment in this expansion plan will benefit every member of our parish community and enhance every ministry and program we offer. Some of the major benefits and outcomes for our parish family include:

Enhanced Hospitality: Improved space for gatherings and events will foster a welcoming atmosphere and stronger sense of community among the members.

Larger Gatherings And Meals: The increased capacity for hosting events will create more opportunities to gather as a parish family and to connect with one another.

Support For Parish Organizations: The varied groups that meet on our campus will all benefit from having more adequate space for meetings and events, including our growing elementary school.

Relocation Of The Senior Center: New facilities will enhance our burgeoning Senior Center ministry.

Updated Mother's Day Out Facilities: More modern facilities will better position us to attract and retain younger families to our parish, as well as provide an essential pipeline to our school.

Youth Program Facilities: Dedicated flex space for a variety of vital programs will help foster the spiritual, physical, and social formation of our youth. Finally, ease of access to the new facilities and improved ergonomic interior design will greatly benefit everyone, especially persons with physical difficulties. Together, we can build a future that supports and enriches our mission and community.

Finances

St. Mary on the Hill Projects:

Estimated Cost \$22 million
 Diocese of Savannah Harvest of Hope Campaign Contribution:..... \$1.4 million
Total:.....\$23.4 million

Existing Parish Savings: \$9.4 million
 Our Faith Our Future Campaign:..... \$14 million
Total:.....\$23.4 million

Summary

To achieve our objectives, St. Mary's Parish Leadership has launched the **Our Faith Our Future** Capital Campaign. The overall estimated financial need to accomplish these projects is \$22 million. Our commitment to the Diocese of Savannah for the Harvest of Hope Capital Campaign adds \$1.4 million for a total of \$23.4 million. Dedicating \$9.4 million from the Existing Parish Savings will reduce the balance needed to \$14 million. Our goal for the campaign will be to raise a minimum of \$14 million. Any monies raised above the cost of these projects will be designated for a parish endowment.

“Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone.”

~ Ephesians 2:20

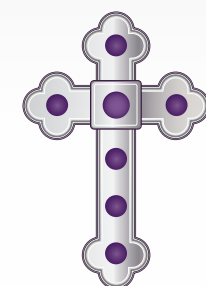


HARVEST OF HOPE CAMPAIGN SUPPORT

\$1,400,000

With a goal of raising \$25 million, the Harvest of Hope capital campaign will infuse funds into every one of our parishes and missions; establish endowments for seminarian education, vocations, and evangelization; secure funding for a centrally-located tract of land within the diocese; and provide for the 2025 Annual Catholic Appeal.

May this historic campaign multiply the blessings we have received and plant seeds for an abundant harvest in the future!

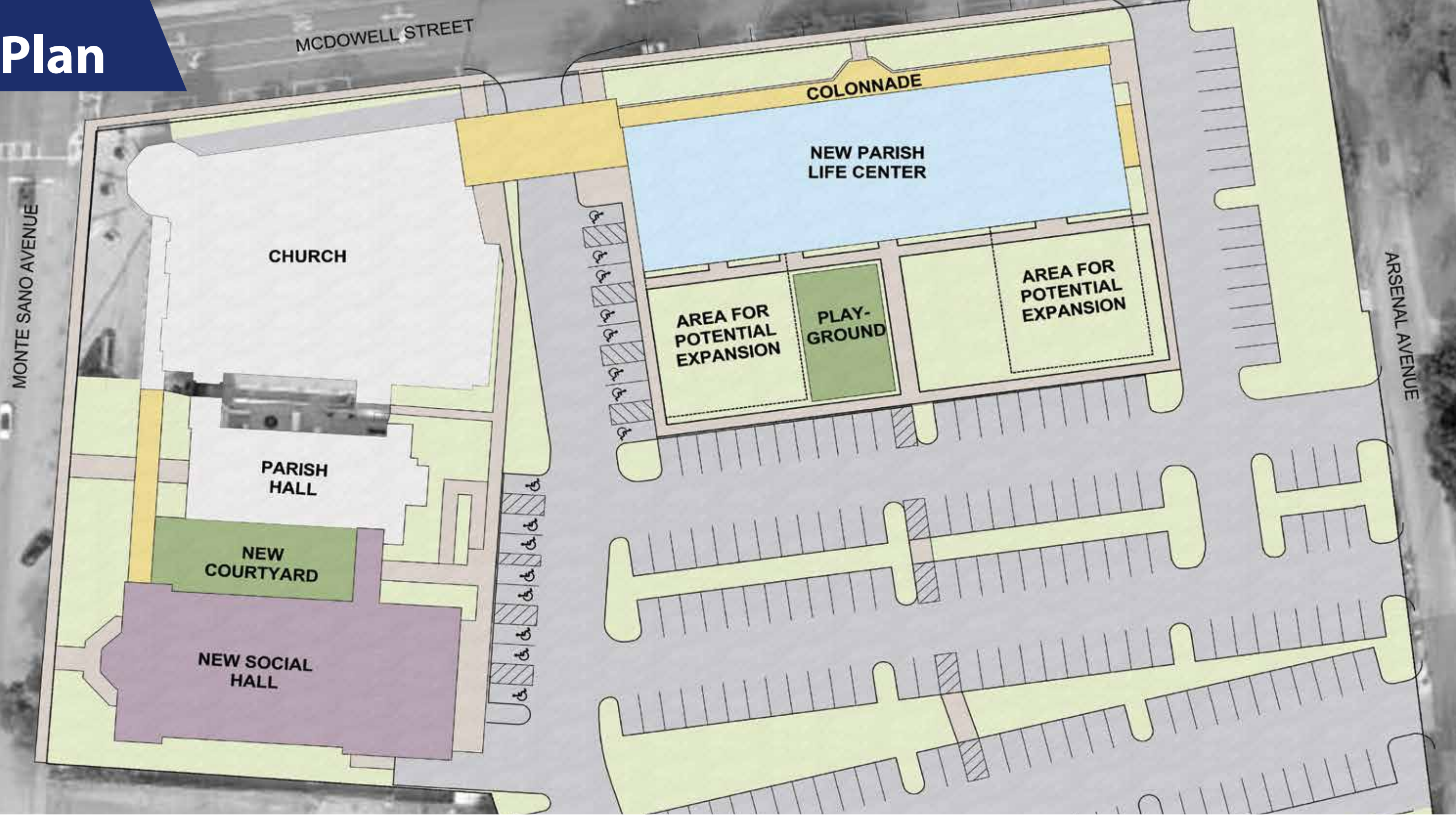


HARVEST of HOPE

Planting seeds for the future of the Diocese of Savannah.

For more information, please visit diosav.org/hope.

Site Plan



New Parish Life Center: McDowell Street

MAIN FLOOR ~ 13,600 SQ FT

Floor Plan



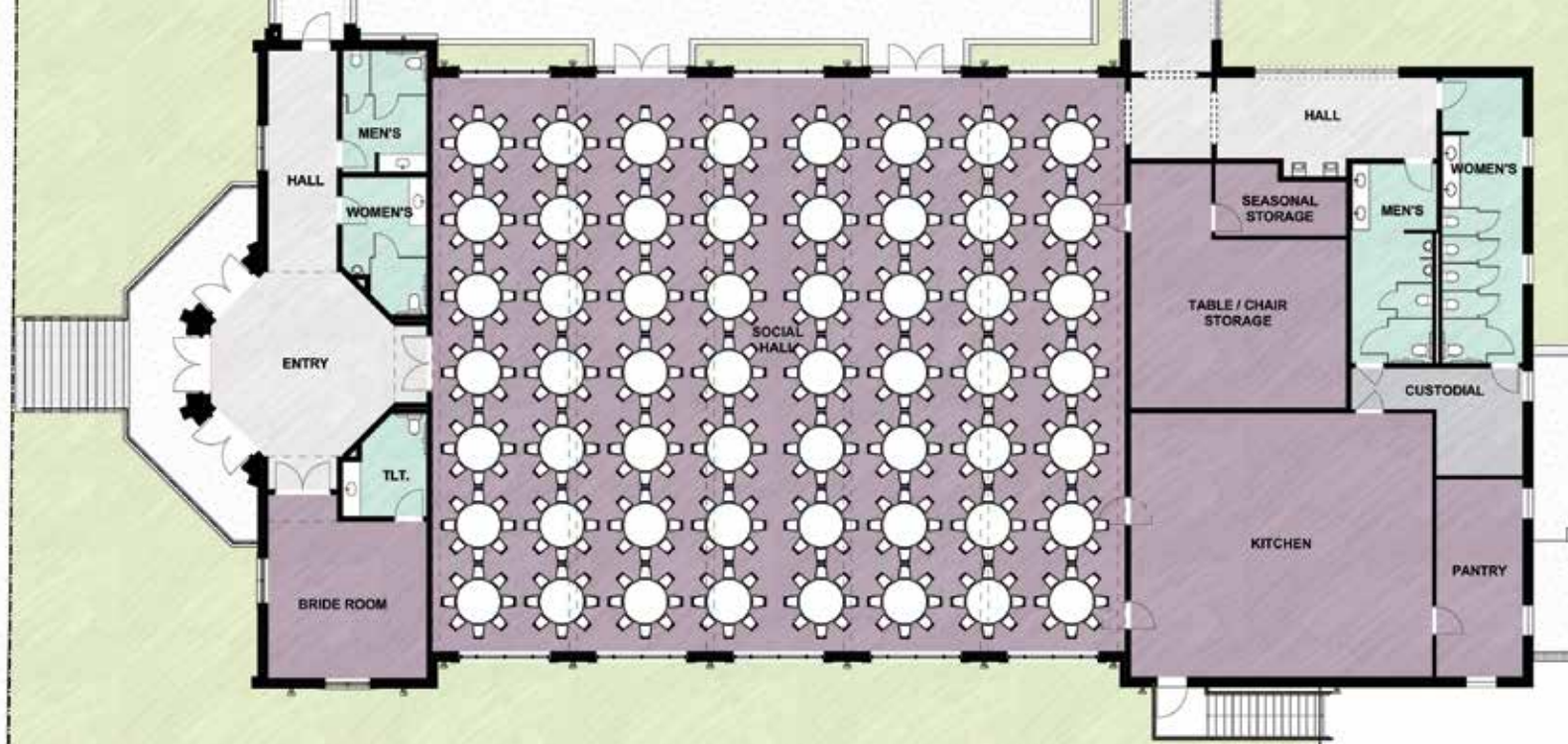
- STAIR
- EDUCATION
- GREEN SPACE
- PLAYGROUND
- RESTROOM
- ADMINISTRATIVE
- SENIOR/ADULT MINISTRY
- MAINTENANCE
- CIRCULATION

New Parish Life Center: McDowell Street SECOND FLOOR ~ 10,840 SQ FT



New Social Hall: Monte Santo Avenue

TOTAL OF 12,230 SQ FT



New Courtyard off of the New Social Hall

How You Can Get Involved

Throughout the **Our Faith Our Future** Capital Campaign, Father Ross, the Campaign Leadership and volunteer workers will reach out to fellow parishioners to communicate our vision. These efforts are aimed at giving all parishioners an opportunity to participate.

Every family is asked to consider all the information contained in this brochure and then make a prayerful decision about how to support the campaign. Those who do not respond will be personally contacted by fellow parishioners who will volunteer their time over several weeks during the campaign. The volunteers will be giving their time to undertake the vital task of making contact and increasing the awareness of the campaign.

During the campaign, we are asking everyone who calls St. Mary on the Hill Catholic Church their spiritual home to do the following:

1. Pray for the success of the campaign.
2. Be an ambassador for St. Mary on the Hill Parish by sharing key information and encouraging others to get involved.
3. Make a sacrificial pledge.

Whether you participate by attending a campaign reception, responding at Mass or via mail, or by graciously receiving a visit from a fellow parishioner, it is your active involvement that will make this campaign a success.

How to Pledge Your Support

The overall goal for the **Our Faith Our Future** Capital Campaign is \$14 million. Every member of our faith community is integral to our success in reaching this goal and, therefore, each family is asked to consider making a pledge to the campaign to the best of their ability.

Each family is asked to consider a pledge of \$6,000 or more, payable over four years. A pledge of \$6,000, after a down payment of \$600, is \$113 per month for four years (or \$125 per month without a down payment). This breaks down to only \$26 per week!

We Need Your Special Generosity

Everyone is asked to prayerfully consider how their generosity can reflect their gratitude for the gifts that God has given them. We know that a pledge of \$6,000 will be a challenge for some of our parish households. Therefore, it is vital to the success of our campaign that those who are able to make larger pledges do so.

Individuals who are financially capable of pledging \$10,000, \$25,000, \$50,000 or more, are asked to step forward and become leaders in our campaign. Please review the Suggested Gift Plans on the following page and choose a plan that is right for you and your family.

Suggested Pledge Plans

(plans indicate a 4-year pledge period)

Total Gift	10% Down Payment	4 Annual Payments	16 Quarterly Payments	48 Monthly Payments	Weekly Sacrifice
\$100,000	\$10,000	\$22,500	\$5,625	\$1,875	\$433
\$75,000	\$7,500	\$16,875	\$4,219	\$1,406	\$325
\$50,000	\$5,000	\$11,250	\$2,813	\$938	\$216
\$40,000	\$4,000	\$9,000	\$2,250	\$750	\$173
\$30,000	\$3,000	\$6,750	\$1,688	\$563	\$130
\$20,000	\$2,000	\$4,500	\$1,125	\$375	\$87
\$15,000	\$1,500	\$3,375	\$844	\$281	\$65
\$10,000	\$1,000	\$2,250	\$563	\$188	\$43
\$8,000	\$800	\$1,800	\$450	\$150	\$35
\$6,000	\$600	\$1,350	\$338	\$113	\$26

The gift plans in this brochure are provided as a suggested guideline when considering your pledge. Please review the gift plans carefully and select one that fits your family's financial situation. Pledges are not legally binding, but rather the expression of your intent.

Pledging Information

- Please make checks payable to **St. Mary on the Hill Catholic Church** with a notation **Our Faith Our Future Capital Campaign**.
- Payments will be set up over a four-year period. If desired, a longer or shorter period may be arranged.
- Gift plans are based on a 10% down payment. However, a down payment is not necessary to begin your pledge.
- To make your pledge via credit, debit or automatic draft, please visit: www.osvhub.com/stmaryonthehill/giving/funds or scan the QR code.



How To Make Your Pledge

Pledges via Cash, Check

Simply complete your pledge card by noting the amount of your pledge and down payment. Be sure to select your method of payment, i.e., monthly, quarterly, or annual payments. Please make checks payable to **St. Mary on the Hill Catholic Church** with a notation **Our Faith Our Future Capital Campaign** on the memo line. You will be sent payment reminders and a special payment envelope in accordance with the payment plan you choose. You may return the pledge card in the weekly collection, bring it to the parish office, or return it by mail.

Electronic Fund Transfers

Please complete your pledge card by checking the appropriate box to indicate that you wish to make your payments via electronic fund transfer from your bank account, debit or credit card. When choosing the electronic method of payment, you will need to set up the automatic payments on our website: www.osvhub.com/stmaryonthehill/giving/funds

Gifts of Property, Life Insurance, Annuities, Wills or Bequests

There are different ways to support St. Mary On the Hill Parish both today, and in the years to come via planned giving. Families or individuals can make gifts of real estate, personal property, automobiles, life insurance, estate bequests, annuities or charitable remainder trusts. For substantial gifts of property other than marketable securities, the IRS requires an appraisal. Please contact the Campaign Office for more information*.

Gifts of Stock

You may use your own broker/agent or the parish's agent to transfer gifts of stock. If the stock has been held for one year or longer, you do not have to pay capital gains tax on the stock, and are allowed a tax deduction for the full value of the stock, provided that the stock is transferred to the parish before being liquidated. The stock is not required to have appreciated in value since you purchased it. If you are interested in a stock donation, please contact the Campaign Office or make a notation on the pledge card so we may provide you with the necessary information.

IRA Contributions

An IRA owner, age 70½ or over, can directly transfer tax-free up to \$111,000 for 2026 to an eligible charity. This option, also known as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), can be used for distributions from IRAs, regardless of whether the owners itemize their deductions. Distributions from employer-sponsored retirement plans, including SIMPLE IRAs and simplified employee pension (SEP) plans, are not eligible*.

To qualify, the funds must be transferred directly by the IRA trustee to the eligible charity. Distributed amounts may be excluded from the IRA owner's income — resulting in lower taxable income for the IRA owner*.

*Please confirm current tax law with your tax advisor or the IRS.

In Deuteronomy 16:10 we are reminded that "the measure of your own free will offering should be in proportion to the blessing the Lord has bestowed on you."



If you have any questions about the campaign or making your pledge, please contact our On-Site Campaign Office at **(706) 733-6627**.



Keep in Mind the Three Facets of Parish Giving

Offertory: Your weekly contributions to the general collection support the day-to-day operating expenses of the parish, including Faith Formation, parish ministries, liturgy, maintaining our facilities and personnel.

Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA): Each year, through the Annual Catholic Appeal, St. Mary on the Hill Parish assists the Diocese of Savannah with its ministries of feeding the hungry, defending the vulnerable, sheltering the suffering, supporting religious vocations, and strengthening formation in our Catholic Faith. The 2025 Annual Catholic Appeal has been included in the Harvest of Hope Capital Campaign. The Appeal will return in 2026.

Our Faith Our Future Capital Campaign: It is important to keep in mind that your payments to the campaign are in addition to your regular offertory contributions and annual appeal contributions. Your campaign pledge is a restricted gift – to be used solely for the projects cited in this brochure.

Thank you

We would not have come this far in our campaign without the assistance of a special group of dedicated people. They continue to provide us with the tools and direction we need to be successful. Our sincere gratitude to our Campaign Leadership Committee, Parish Office Staff, and enthusiastic Volunteers.

