



St. Mary Mother of God Church and School

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Established 1865

May 7, 2017

Dear Parishioners, Parents, Staff, Friends and Neighbors of St. Mary's,

With the approval of our Bishop, I have initiated a Capital Campaign planning process at St. Mary's. We are blessed with the Campaign Co-Chair leadership of Peggy and Mike Hartshorn who are parishioners and leaders of local, national and international causes. They also worked on the 1988 Campaign here. The Hartshorns will be reaching out to fellow parishioners to build a Campaign Steering Committee for our fundraising efforts. Please call the parish office (614-445-9668) and ask for Sheila if you can help us.

Our church restoration depends entirely on our ability to secure gifts through this Capital Campaign. We cannot assume any debt for this project. Because of the emergency of our need, the diocese granted us a loan, which was held and managed by the diocese, its purpose being to stabilize St. Mary Church. The projected cost for this Part I of the church project was \$522,000. Part I of our project (stabilization of the church) is complete and I am happy to report that we were \$32,500 under the estimated cost and within two weeks of our projected time line.

Before Phase II (the repair of the church) can begin, we are required to repay the loan (approximately \$490,000) to the diocese and have 100% of our goal pledged and 50% of it in the bank. We are also discerning the possibility of expanding the school. However, the church is the first priority and will be fully funded before we consider the school. The expansion of the school will be dependent on a feasibility study which will take place in June.

Updates on our campaign planning will be made available on social media and our website. We are now periodically posting photos of work that has been done on the church. You may access these through the following channels: Parish Facebook, School Facebook, Parish Website - www.stmarygv.org, School Website - www.stmaryschoolgv.com, and Instagram.

Architects are currently developing renderings for the interior of the church. When these are available, we will share them.

This is a big undertaking for our parish. We will need the support of all of you. Please keep St. Mary's and our Campaign in your prayers.

I will keep you updated as things progress.

God bless all of you and may He continue to bless Grand Old St. Mary's!

The Lord be with you!


Father Kevin F. Lutz