



The *Basilica of Saint Mary* of the Immaculate Conception

Restoration Project Update

November 2018 Summary

Its spire rising above the downtown Norfolk skyline, for more than 225 years the Basilica of Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception has served as a beacon of hope—both for its active and diverse congregation and to the poor who depend on its outreach services. Last year alone, more than 54,000 people were serviced through the church’s food pantry and over 39,000 meals were served in its soup kitchen.

In 2014, the church embarked on a five-year strategic plan. As church leaders were finalizing the plans, which included restoring the center aisle configuration and turning the altar toward the congregation, major structural defects were uncovered. Work began immediately to repair the church’s leaky roof, but damage from it was extensive.

“We stand proudly and beautifully in the midst of the poor. Restoring our beautiful historic Basilica will allow us to continue to preach the Gospel while not impacting our mission to serve the poor. If we take care of the poor, God will take care of us.”

Father Jim Curran, Rector

The work has forced the congregation from the sanctuary and for the last year, services have had to be held in the Fellowship Hall. In addition, the cost of repairing the roof and addressing other structural issues has ballooned to twice what was first estimated. Current estimates put the restoration at \$6.1 million.

The congregation has risen to the task thus far, and has raised over \$1 million. The community has also responded to the need, and an additional \$800,000 has been pledged. In the last few weeks, the church has received a \$1 million challenge grant, after completing a previous \$500,000 challenge. Meeting this challenge will achieve the fundraising goal and allow the church to fulfill its vision of restoring this historic monument to its previous beauty.



1 3D INTERIOR VIEW A

WB William N. Bissell
Architect
6444 Olde Bullocks Circle
Suffolk, VA 23435
Phone: (757) 334-7273
Fax: (757) 494-7687
E-Mail: wbissell@verizon.net

Basilica of St. Mary Renovations
232 CHAPEL STREET
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23504
SANCTUARY

No.	Description	Date

3D INTERIOR VIEW A

Project number: 1803
Date: 8-21-18
Drawn by: WNB
Checked by: WNB

A-6.2

Scale



The *Basilica of Saint Mary* of the Immaculate Conception

Restoration Project Update

November 2018

Repairs

- South side roof repairs completed
- North side roof repairs in progress (15% completed)
- Drainage issues



“Typical” deteriorated conditions behind upper roof cornice



Approximately 70% of rafter tails are deteriorated on North side



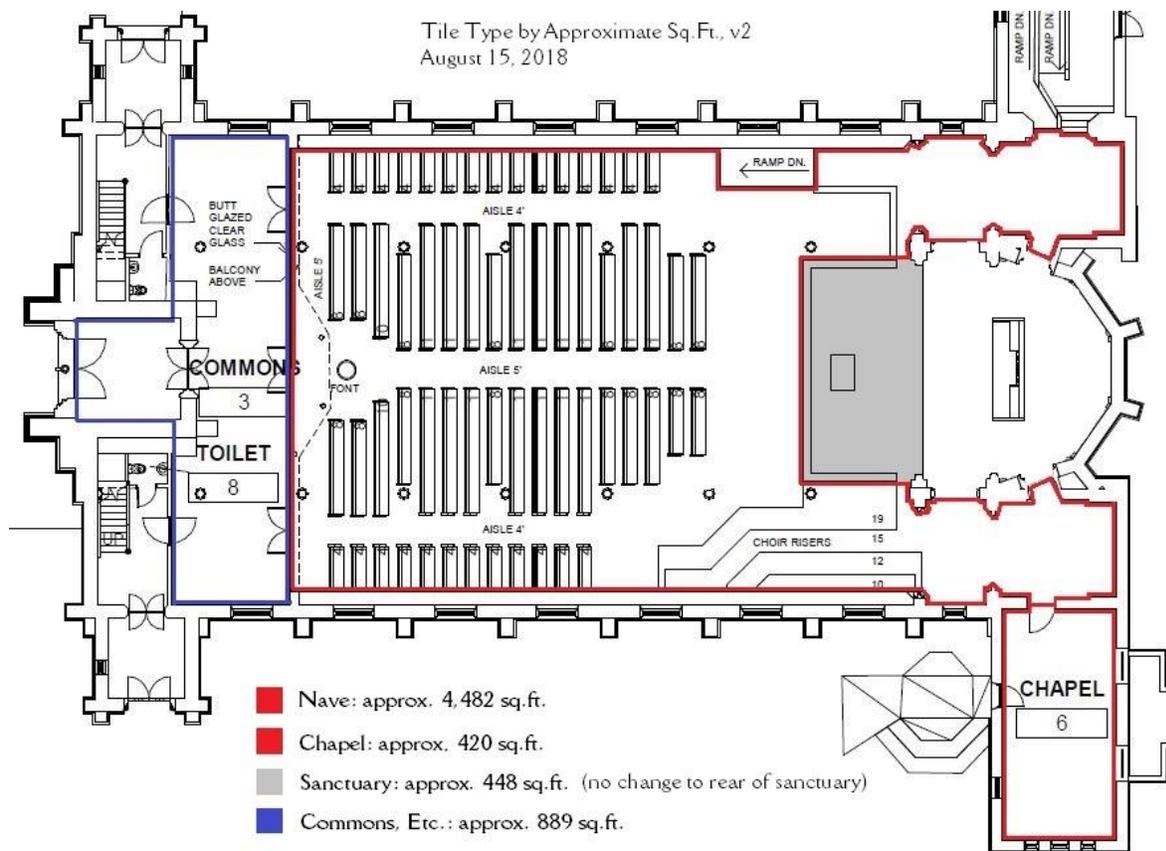
“Typical” condition of existing clerestory windows



The *Basilica of Saint Mary* of the Immaculate Conception

Restoration of Interior

- Plans completed for interior restoration include:
 - Restoration of pew configuration to include center aisle
 - New floors
 - Turning the grand altar to again face the congregation
 - Renovation of bathrooms
 - Restoration of stained glass windows
 - Plastering, painting
- Presentation to and approval by BARC (Building and Renovation Committee) of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond
- Presentation to and approval by Department of Historic Resources

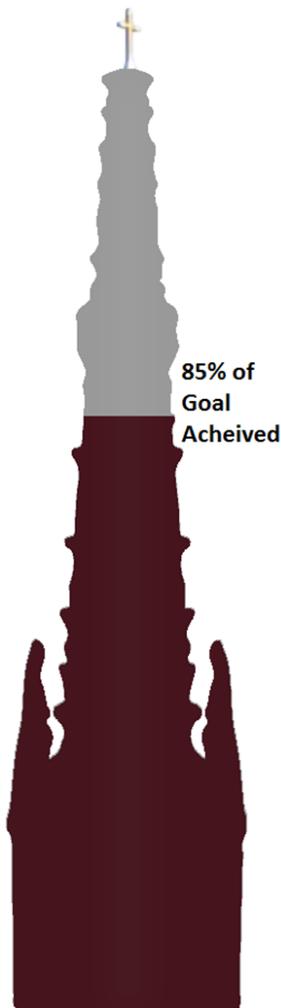


New Proposed Interior Layout



The *Basilica of Saint Mary* of the Immaculate Conception

Fundraising



- Total Campaign goal is now \$6.1 million
- 1st anonymous challenge was met in June 2018
- Congregation has contributed more than \$1 million to the project
- Expected tax credits total \$1.2 million
- **2nd challenge of \$1 million received in September 2018**
- \$795,000 needed to complete challenge match and meet total goal

