

ST MARK'S REVITALIZATION PROJECT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I thought in 2019 we already updated the school?

In 2019, through the initial gift of a lead donor family and many parishioners' and school parents' matching efforts, the elementary school built in 1965 had a significant renovation. Single pane windows were replaced with new high efficient glass, and old lighting was replaced with LED lighting, the original cabinetry in the classrooms was replaced, fire sprinklers and new security systems were added for the safety of our students, short-throw projectors and technology was built into the classrooms, new painting, and insulation all added to improving the educational experience. The school also embraced its Catholic identity with its Hall of Saints in the elementary and middle schools. In the middle school, the classrooms were renovated, lockers were added, and all new flooring.

Why are we doing this project in the old Church space?

The school continues to grow, and since 2003 when the Church moved to the new location down the street, the old Church has only been used as a gathering space for school programs a couple of times a year and for school Mass when the weather does not accommodate the students walking down to the main Church.

As the school grows and needs quality space, it is a great, efficient way to grow inside our own footprint and honor our church history.

What are you doing to the old church space?

After a school master planning effort in 2019, the renovated space will have an onsite student chapel, a new library, additional classrooms, new administration/counseling spaces, all while preserving the history and legacy of the original St. Mark's Church.

What makes this project special?

The conversion of the original St. Mark's Church into modern learning and administration spaces is important, but in this project, we are going to create a highly visible main entrance into our school showcasing our Catholic identity and creating the only student chapel in the state located inside an elementary school as it honors the legacy of our original Church.

FREQUENTLY ASKED
questions

How are we going to pay for the project?

It will take a village of support from parents, grandparents, parishioners, and alumni that have the ability to make large leadership gifts to the school revitalization project. We will need parents and parishioners who can help with pledges that can be spread over three years. We can take donations in cash, monthly transfers, stock transfers, and gifts in kind for the types of work required on the project. Getting everyone involved is crucial to the success of this project.

What if I already have a pledge to another project?

If the urgency and necessity of expanding opportunities for our young disciples speak to your heart, we can accept pledges that don't start this year as long as there is intent to give.

How does the Idaho Tax Credit work?

The direct reduction in taxes on the first \$2000 donated per couple, plus charitable deductions if applicable. See examples on the case statement and speak with your tax advisor.

How is the money raised to be spent?

All of the funds raised for the project will be put into completing the work in the order of need for the school operations to benefit the students directly. As the funds available reach certain thresholds and based on school needs and sequence of construction requirements, the work will be completed.

Will there be other phases?

Our goal is to raise approximately 2.5 million dollars to complete Phase II. We understand this may take some time, and Phase II may have to be broken into smaller phases as funds become available. For example, this summer, we hope to have enough monies to meet the need for two additional classrooms and grow our academic programs. In the future, more phases may be needed to renovate our gymnasium and add learning spaces if enrollment increases.

After the School Revitalization project is completed are there plans for the parish?

Yes, the parish went through a master planning process similar to the one completed by the school with various projects and building maintenance projects. Fr. Ben has prioritized completing the work at the school first.

How does the St. Mark's Educational Foundation fit into this project?

It is important that Foundation grow to help with the school's financial stability in support of the financial aid and the operating budget. As a key participant, 10% of the money raised will go to the Foundation to grow its corpus and support the school long term.