

Our PARISH – Our FUTURE

A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

September 2025

Dear St. Mary of Mount Carmel Catholic Church Parishioners,



Greetings from the St. Mary of Mount Carmel Church Building Committee! As a parishioner of St. Mary of Mount Carmel, we would like to update you on the exciting changes that are coming for our parish.

In December of 2024, shortly after I came here, we sent an update to the parish. At that time, we were estimating a 7 million dollar project and we had 4 million in donations and pledges.

Options considered since Christmas 2024:

- Building on the rectory side of the church.
- Options that would save the convent.
- Options for building on the school side of the church.
- After many meetings and feedback, we decided finally in July to build on the school side.

Since June we have taken a firmer look at costs:

- Working with HMA Architects-St Cloud.
- Working with Breitbach Construction who just finished a similar project for the Catholic Church in Zimmerman Princeton.

Updated Cost and Support as of September 15, 2025:

- \$5.7 Million is the proposed cost of the project with considerable contingency included.
- \$5.3 Million is raised in cash and pledges. It looks really good to collect almost all the pledges.
- \$280,000 more needed from the parish (which will be matched 1:2 for another \$140,000).

Project Benefits:

- A new, handicapped accessible, ground floor Adoration Chapel.
- A ground floor multi-purpose Fellowship Hall with serving kitchen (to supplement our current Parish Hall in the church basement). This room will be used by the parish, religious education, and the school.
- A youth room.
- A new interior entrance into the east side of the church that includes a more welcoming entrance with grand stairway and a larger/faster elevator.
- New handicapped accessible, ground floor toilet rooms.
- Larger, easier to maneuver parking lot with covered drop off.

And for the school, we are planning to add:

- Two Montessori-inspired classrooms and a secure outdoor playground.

We have many amazing donations:

- \$2 Million from a SMMC Alum.
- \$1 Million from a family member connected to SMMC School.
- \$1 Million in a 1:2 matching grant.
- Many, many donations and pledges large and not as large from people just like you.

We have been blessed with the generosity and the vision by so many!

When? Construction is expected to begin in June 2026 and be completed in September 2027 see timeline on the picture document.

What Now? This is where you, the parishioner, comes in. We hope that your involvement at St. Mary of Mount Carmel Catholic Church has strengthened your faith and relationship with the Holy Trinity. **As a parishioner, can you help us raise the remaining \$280,000 over the next 12 to 24 months?**

We all are asked by God to share our time, talent, and treasure. We hope that you can answer this call to share some of your treasure as we reach for the Capital Campaign goal of raising \$5.7M in total funds – to allow St. Mary of Mount Carmel to continue to have a positive impact on our current and future parishioners and students.

Thank you again for your continued prayers and financial support. Your contribution to **our** future is greatly appreciated!

In God's Blessings,

Fr. Joe Herzing, Pastor
and the Building Committee



INFO



GIFTING

You are invited to join the current parishioners of St. Mary's, our general alumnus and his wife, and two other major donors, in supporting the **Our Parish - Our Future** Capital Campaign. Together, with your prayers, commitment, and generosity, we can make the **Our Parish - Our Future** Capital Campaign a success.

Please consider one of the following gift levels:

___ \$100

___ \$1,000

___ \$25,000

___ \$250

___ \$5,000

___ \$50,000

___ \$500

___ \$10,000

___ \$100,000

___ Other amount

You can make your contribution with the attached Commitment Form, EFT Form, or QR Code.

Our campaign committee would like to publicly thank each contributor. This initial acknowledgement will not include any reference to the size of your donation. It will simply be acknowledging the contributor's name(s) in the church bulletin and/or on social media. When the project is completed, we are planning to acknowledge those who have made contributions and who are agreeable to being listed.

Please contact the parish office if you do not want your name published (320.732.2635 or Parish Secretary, Dawn Richter at dawnr@fivestaracc.org). By not contacting the office, we will assume you are agreeable to your name being on the list of contributors.