

## Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

To focus on our mission of forming Missionary Disciples who radiate the Light and Love of Christ to all, we must provide safe and welcoming spaces where we may encounter Christ, engage in fellowship with one another, and be equipped in our faith formation. Just as is routine with all of our homes, maintenance has to be done. We happen to share one of the oldest houses in town, dating back to 1858; our church has stood for 164 years.

As your Pastor, it is my sincere desire to make prudent decisions with the resources with which you have entrusted us and to take care of what we have. In order to do that, I must ask for your help and that of every family and individual of the parish. It is my hope that the **Remember, Rebuild, and Renew** campaign will raise a minimum of \$2,500,000, which will be needed to cover a majority of our projects.

We have come to the time where must now address those items that we have talked about for years, if not decades. These must-do projects that will be outlined in this brochure, not only exist in the church, but also in our other buildings and on the grounds.

This brochure will outline the projects that have been done and our priorities for the next 3-5 years. If we do not address these items proactively and plan for them, they will not only become more costly in the future, but may have to be addressed as emergency repairs that will significantly affect our financial position.

Please understand that to accomplish our mission and vision, we must provide a space that is safe and inviting. These are important projects. By making renovations and repairs to our church building, we will continue the vision of faith, worship, and service that was established more than 175 years ago. If you have any further questions or concerns about the Campaign, please feel free to call me at (815) 933-8285 ext. 322.

Thank you for your time and support of Maternity BVM Church.

w. Jason Mesleit csv.

Your servant in Christ,

Rev. Jason Nesbit, C.S.V.

**Pastor** 

## Our **HISTORY**

Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary began its roots at a time when Bourbonnais Grove welcomed the arrival of French-Canadian pioneers. Mass for these new immigrants started in the home of Noel LeVasseur, which eventually led to the construction of a larger log cabin space dedicated to St. Leo in the year 1841.

Eventually, a new framed church structure would replace the log cabin to accommodate the increasing population of Catholics moving down from Canada. This new framed church was dedicated to Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in 1847 on this very site. Unfortunately, this new framed church was consumed in flames and destroyed. The townspeople and the parishioners of Maternity had no choice but to make plans for a new house of worship.

After efforts at fundraising became progressively difficult, several parishioners took it upon themselves to begin construction with volunteer labor. The task was difficult thus, the sacred grounds of Maternity were hand built by a people who put their faith first.

Likewise, the school building originally built for the education of all the children of Bourbonnais Grove in the 1800's was rebuilt in the early 1900's and eventually replaced by the current structure in 1960.

Although the people are the Church, and buildings are just buildings, somehow Maternity is so much more. For over 175 years, Maternity has been a place of life events and fond memories such as baptisms, first communions, reconciliations, confirmations, weddings and even funerals. In addition, it serves as a place where we come together weekly, and even daily, to worship together, and build relationships with each other. Thus, a beautiful space was built large enough to hold us all, even today, as we have long outgrown the home of Noel LeVasseur, and even the 20' x 30' log cabin. Thankfully, we have grown large enough, to no longer rely on missionary priests as in the days of old, as we have long been able to support resident priests.

We have come a long way in 175 years. God willing, we will continue for another 175 years as we stay true to our mission here at Maternity as a people inspired by the Gospel of Jesus Christ and nourished by the Holy Spirit, we are missionary disciples radiating the light and love of Christ to all.



## Our **CHALLENGE**

In 2020, the Diocese of Joliet offered the services of a highly qualified engineer, to inspect our property and buildings for structural issues and maintenance concerns. Based upon the very lengthy report from the engineer, and from the inspections and discussions from our own building and grounds committee, we have compiled a list of projects that we can no longer postpone for the safety of our parishioners and preservation of our buildings. We are faced with urgently needing to address some of these projects, and have had to complete a few of them before the harsh winter sets in on us once again.

To complete these nessecary projects we need your involvement; you have an important voice in the future of Maternity BVM. Please prayerfully consider how the lord is calling you to support Maternity BVM Catholic Church. The future of our faith community remains in our hands, and the future is very bright. Our willingness to meet the challenge before us will serve as a testament to our determination and God's grace as we look to the future.

## Campaign **OVERVIEW**

In order to maintain our Maternity BVM facilities, as well as strengthen our life together, the parish leadership has initiated the "Remember, Rebuild, Renew," Capital Campaign.

The parish community of Maternity BVM would like to offer an opportunity for every parishioner to participate in our "Remember, Rebuild, Renew" Capital Campaign, and to support our parish needs. Through the involvement and generosity of all the members of our community, we will successfully reach our goal. Every parishioner is invited to attend a reception and learn more about the current progress and forthcoming steps in the next phase of our master building plan. All parishioners are asked to make a pledge by returning a completed pledge card. The success of our campaign depends on the participation and generosity of all our parish members. Throughout our campaign, every parishioner will be asked to:

- Reflect on how greatly God has blessed us as individuals and as a parish community.
- Give thanks to God for these blessings.
- Prayerfully consider how their involvement with this campaign can reflect their gratitude to God and our Church.













"Whoever sows sparingly will reap sparingly and whoever sows bountifully will reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

## Cost **OVERVIEW**

The following numbers illustrate our need:

Rectory	Replaced flooring, furniture, painted front office and treated the roof.				
Church	Tuckpointed, repaired and painted wall outside St. Viator Hall from ivy damage, repaired front doors, repaired light in steeple. Relandscaped areas on and around plaza, repaired and retreated benches on plaza, replaced fencing around air conditioners, repaired shed to basement stairs off St. Viator Hall and replaced window, removed dormer on roof of St. Viator Hall, recoated roof on church. Repaired and replaced downspouts & gutters. We will need to build a fund to replace the roof in 5-10 years.				
Grounds	Repainted statues in grotto, tuckpointed grotto, removed dead trees and dead branches on property and added lighting.				

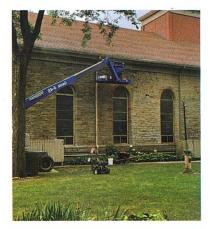
#### WORK ALREADY COMPLETED EXPENSE TOTAL

\$383,350

Facility	Description	Estimated Costs		
Church	Replace storm windows	\$205,720		
Church	New signage with foundation, lighting, and landscaping for church facing Marsile St.	\$22,290		
Church	Replace back doors in Sacristy & St. Viator Hall	\$11,000		
Grounds	Signage for doors, grotto, church and entrances	\$9,710		
School	Replace boiler	\$200,000		
Rectory	Upgrade technology in Parish Center	\$6,000		
PRIORIT	Y 1 - PROJECTED COSTS	\$454,720		
School	Replace gym ceiling	\$32,00		
School	Repair sprinkler regulator in R.E./school building	\$5,000		
School	Repair HVAC System in Parish Center & Libraries	\$128,00		
Rectory	Windows & kitchen	\$57,00		
PRIORIT	Y 2 - PROJECTED COSTS	\$222,000		
Rectory	Replace carpeting in basement	\$5,00		
Grounds	Repair cracked walkways and pathways	\$25,000		
Grounds	Resurface parking lots	\$300,000		
Grounds	Storage building	\$50,000		
School	Replace roof	\$505,00		
School	Replace windows	\$300,000		
School	Interior doors	\$6,00		
PRIORIT	Y 3 - PROJECTED COSTS	\$1,191,000		
Rectory	Carpeting in Parish Offices	\$8,00		
Church	Replace carpeting in St. Viator Hall	\$2,00		
School	Removal of flooring in old section of RE/school building & replace	\$525,00		
PRIORTI	TY 4 - PROJECTED COSTS	\$535,000		

#### **GRAND TOTAL**

\$2,786,070











<sup>\*</sup> Disclaimer - These estimates are provided to be used as guides only. Each estimate is provided as a basic guide or template for building upon. Prices may need updating and are estimated based on size of job.

## How To Pledge YOUR SUPPORT

Every member of our parish community is integral to the future growth and development of our church, and therefore, each family is asked to consider a pledge to the campaign to the best of their ability. Our goal at Maternity BVM Parish is to raise a minimum of \$2,500,000, with a challenge goal of \$3,000,000 through the efforts of this campaign.

Everyone is asked to prayerfully consider how their generosity can reflect their gratitude for the gifts that God has given them. While any amount, small or large, is welcomed and will help us achieve our goal, each family is asked to consider a pledge of \$5,000 or more, payable over three years. A pledge of \$5,000, after a 10% down payment of \$500, is \$125 per month or \$4.11 per day.

## Campaign FAQ's

#### **How Can I Make A Gift?**

You can make commitments to the Remember, Rebuild, and Renew campaign in the form of cash, pledges, securities and planned gifts. Fill out the pledge card included with your packet or donate online by visiting mbvmchurch.org Please make checks payable to Maternity BVM Campaign.

## Is \$5,000 The Lowest Amount That I Can Pledge?

**No**, we encourage parishioners to prayerfully consider an amount that best reflects the blessings they have received.

## Is A 10% Down-Payment Required?

Gift plans are based on a 10% down payment. However, a down payment is not necessary to begin your pledge.

#### Do I Have To Pledge For 3 Years?

**No,** you may select any duration from a one-time gift to a 36-month commitment.

## Is My Gift To The Campaign Tax Deductible?

Your contribution to the **Remember**, **Rebuild**, **and Renew** campaign is tax deductible to the fullest extent provided by law. Annual contribution statements will be mailed to you from the parish office.

#### What Will Happen If I Make A Pledge And I Move Or My Financial Situation Changes?

In a perfect world everyone would be able to maintain all of their pledge payments, but we fully understand that this is not a perfect world. We never want your commitment to become a burden, so if your circumstances change please contact the parish office and we will work with you to find the best course of action regarding your pledge.

# Will All Of The Monies Raised In This Campaign Stay Inthe Parish?

**Yes.** Every dollar raised will go directly to the fund the projects detailed in this brochure.

# Who Will Be Asked To Support The Campaign?

The entire parish family of MBVM will be asked to participate in this effort. In fact, the support of every family will be critical to our success. Your generosity will inspire others to support this worthy cause.

## Will The Parish Keep Us Updated On The Progress Of The Projects?

The parish is committed to being fully transparent with the funds received. We will have a campaign corner in the bulletin with the campaign numbers.

# Does my campaign contribution take the place of my general offertory?

**No,** it is important to remember that this is separate. We ask you to prayerfully consider donating to this campaign without removing your regular support to MBVM.

Not everyone can make the same size gift, but everyone can make the same size sacrifice.



## Suggested GIFT PLANS

Total Gift	10% Down Payment	3 Annual Payments	6 Semi-Annual Payments	12 Quarterly Payments	36 Monthly Payments	Weekly Sacrifice
\$250,000	\$25,000	\$75,000	\$37,500	\$18,750	\$6,250	\$1,442
\$100,000	\$10,000	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$2,500	\$577
\$50,000	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$1,250	\$288
\$25,000	\$2,500	\$7,500	\$3,750	\$1,875	\$625	\$144
\$15,000	\$1,500	\$4,500	\$2,250	\$1,125	\$375	\$86
\$10,000	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$750	\$250	\$57
\$8,000	\$800	\$2,400	\$1,200	\$600	\$200	\$46
\$5,000	\$500	\$1,500	\$750	\$375	\$125	\$28

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.

### Methods of **PLEDGING**

#### **Pledges via Cash or Check**

Simply complete your pledge card by noting the amount of your pledge and down payment. Be sure to select your schedule of payment, i.e., monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual payments. Please make checks payable to **Maternity BVM Campaign.** 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.

# Online Giving Pledges via Credit/Debit Card & Automatic Draft

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 the parish website: **mbvmchurch.org**, by logging into your acccount or setting up a new account.

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

There are different ways to support Maternity BVM both today and in the years to come via planned giving. Families or individuals can make gifts of real estate, property, automobiles, life insurance, estate bequests, annuities or charitable remainder trusts.

#### **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**

The IRA Charitable Rollover provision of the 2015 PATH (Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes) Act permits individuals age 70.5 or older to contribute up to \$100,000 from a qualifying retirement account directly to Maternity BVM, without recognizing the assets transferred to the charity as income. Please contact your financial advisor for additional information concerning gifts via retirement accounts.

\* For substantial gifts of property other than marketable securities, the IRS requires an appraisal Contact the Campaign Office for more information. Please confirm current tax law with your tax advisor or the IRS.

If you have any questions about the campaign or making your pledge, please contact the parish office, (815) 933-8285, ext. 315

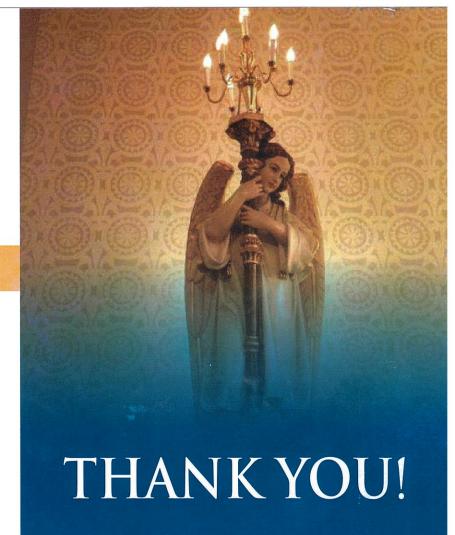


## CAMPAIGN PRAYER

Loving God,

At this time in the life of our Parish, we turn to you with grateful hearts for what we have, and with great anticipation for what is yet to be. Bless us with a sense of unity, a spirit of cooperation, and a generous heart as we face the responsibilities and challenges of this undertaking. We know there is much to do. We believe our goals are rooted in Your Word and in Your Work. Please guide us, strengthen us, and bless us with Your Presence. now and through the years to come. In Jesus' Name we pray,

Amen.



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 the Campaign

Leadership Committee, Parish Office Staff and enthusiastic Volunteers.

FUNDRAISING CONSULTANT Guidance In Giving, Inc. www.guidanceingiving.com