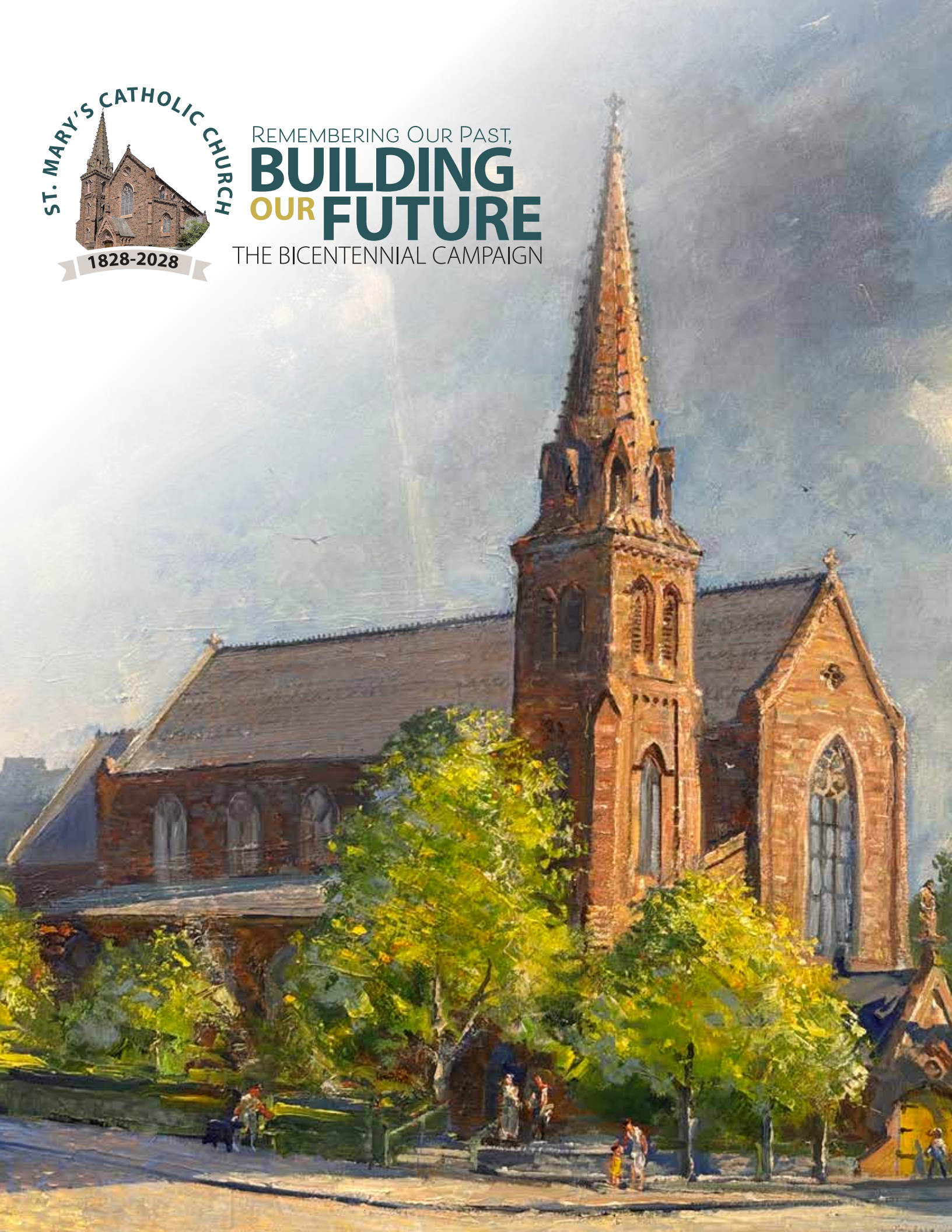




REMEMBERING OUR PAST,
BUILDING
OUR FUTURE
THE BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN



Dear Parishioners,

Together, we have accomplished great things at St. Mary's Church. In just the past few years, we have opened our doors to visitors and provided opportunities for spiritual development through lectures, prayer groups, and adult education series. We have held a variety of events, most notably our Christmas Extravaganza, that foster fellowship and have resulted in a strengthened community. We have resurrected the Hot Lunch program to support those in need. And together, we have created a revitalized parish, one that has seen an increase in the number of registered families, an increase in the number of baptisms and students preparing for Confirmation, and in volunteers for the various parish ministries.

You have done this. Your energy, your enthusiasm, and your willingness to lend your talents and donate your time are responsible for the parish that exists today. It is no stretch to imagine that it is an echo of the enthusiasm, energy, and faith with which our church was built nearly two hundred years ago.

Those first parishioners, who famously volunteered their spare time to build the church's foundation, created a place that would reflect their faith, embody their love of God, and meet their needs. Having first gathered in a converted schoolhouse, and then outgrowing a small, wooden church, they built a structure that would live long beyond them—one that still stands today.

This magnificent church is our inheritance, as well as our legacy to future generations. Those generations include not only our children and grandchildren, they also include the untold numbers of people who will visit our church from around the globe because they are familiar with our history, those who will come to marvel at its beauty, and those who will come as pilgrims, seeking the Presence of Our Lord in times of personal trouble, private sorrow, and in times of uncertainty.

While every generation has made the necessary repairs to the building, our New England weather and the winds off Narragansett Bay have not spared the church. We are reaching a milestone in the life of our church and a pivotal moment in our history. Together, we will do all that is necessary to ensure that the church remains safe and accessible—as well as welcoming—for many generations to come.

Sincerely,



Rev. Mark A. Sauriol
Pastor

“Lord, I love the
refuge of your house,
the site of the
dwelling-place of
your glory.”

- Psalms 26:8



Celebrating 200 Years of St. Mary's Parish

As we prepare to celebrate our parish's bicentennial in 2028, St. Mary's stands at a pivotal moment—a moment of **renewal, restoration, and reinvestment** in our mission to serve as a vibrant beacon of hope in the heart of Newport.

This campaign calls upon every member of our community to help preserve what we cherish, expand what we offer, and invest in our shared spiritual future.

Vision for the Future

- Embrace this moment of **growth and renewal** as we look to the future with confidence and faith.
- Renovate and restore our historic facilities to meet **modern needs and safety standards**.
- Expand ministries and outreach to **serve future generations** and strengthen our witness in the wider community.

St. Mary's Today: A Parish Alive in Christ



1,600+ registered families
and growing each year

- **Dynamic Religious Education** programs for all ages
- A wide range of **social ministries and volunteer opportunities**



2024 Highlights:



- **6,000+** weekday visitors annually
- **50+** baptisms **41** Weddings
- **25%** increase in Confirmation class
- **13** adults journeying through RCIA



In Deuteronomy we are reminded:
"The measure of your own voluntary offering which you will give shall be in proportion to the blessing the Lord, your God, has given you".

Deuteronomy 16:10



Our Needs

Home of Rhode Island's oldest Catholic parish, St. Mary's Church is sited on land purchased in 1847 by Father James Fitton. Work began on August 7, 1848. On July 25, 1852, Bishop Bernard O'Reilly dedicated the building to the patronage of "The Holy Name of Mary, Our Lady of the Isle."

Over time, the church has been enhanced in a number of ways. In the 1890s, the Austrian Tyrolean Art Glass Company fashioned the forty-two stained glass windows we see in our church today. In 1937, a marble floor was laid in the sanctuary, floor tiles were set in the aisles, and the old altars were replaced by altars of white Carrara marble from Florence. In 1958, a magnificent organ built by Casavant Frères of Quebec was installed in the choir loft. In 1967, responding to Vatican II reforms, the altar was brought forward.

Throughout the history of the church, numerous repairs and restorations were made. The most recent capital campaign, in 2001, was undertaken to stabilize the steeple and replace the cast-iron cross that had become unstable, repair sections of the slate roof, and replace damaged brownstone. At the time, it was noted that significant repairs should not be needed for 25 years.

In 2023, the St. Mary's Preservation Committee hired DVBW Architects to complete a review of the church, rectory, and parish center. The examination included three-dimensional laser scans, infrared thermography, and high-resolution photography. This review revealed both immediate and long-term needs.

We are launching a capital campaign to repair and restore our church. The roof and stonework of the church have deteriorated, and renovations must be made to bring the church into compliance with modern safety standards. This work will ensure that our historic church will be a safe and welcoming place for future generations.





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

Suggested Pledge Chart

Total Gift	10% Down Payment	3 Annual Payments	12 Quarterly Payments	36 Monthly Payments	Daily Sacrifice
\$1,000,000	\$100,000	\$300,000	\$75,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$821.92
\$500,000	\$50,000	\$150,000	\$37,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$410.96
\$250,000	\$25,000	\$75,000	\$18,750.00	\$6,250.00	\$205.48
\$100,000	\$10,000	\$30,000	\$7,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$82.19
\$75,000	\$7,500	\$22,500	\$5,625.00	\$1,875.00	\$61.64
\$50,000	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$3,750.00	\$1,250.00	\$41.10
\$25,000	\$2,500	\$7,500	\$1,875.00	\$625.00	\$20.55
\$10,000	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$750.00	\$250.00	\$8.22
\$7,500	\$750	\$2,250	\$562.50	\$187.50	\$6.16
\$6,000	\$600	\$1,800	\$450.00	\$150.00	\$4.93

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 household's financial ability. Payment amounts are calculated assuming a 10% down payment for each pledge.

**Your gift matters:
it matters to you
as a giver and to
our parish as we
utilize it to fulfill
our mission.
Thank you for
your generosity!**

As you make your pledge, please remember...

- Payments may be made in installments over a period of three (3) years.
- Your contribution to the project is in addition to your regular offering and will be used for the purposes outlined in the brochure.
- To give online, please visit **<https://bit.ly/StMarys2025CC>** or scan the QR Code.
- Payment reminders will be mailed to you in accordance with the payment plan you choose.
- Please make checks payable to: **St. Mary's Church**
(*"Capital Campaign" in the Memo field*)
- Pledge payments are fully deductible for tax purposes.



**If you have any questions about the campaign or making
your pledge, please contact the parish office,
at 401.847.0475**

Giving Options

Pledges Via Cash, Check: Simply complete your pledge card by selecting the amount of your pledge and down payment (optional, but encouraged). Make sure to select your method of payment, i.e., monthly, quarterly, or annual payments. **Please make checks payable to St. Mary's Church.** You will be mailed payment reminders and a special payment envelope. Once completed, please return your pledge card in the weekly collection, bring it by the parish office or return it in the mail.

Pledges Online: Please complete your pledge card to indicate that you wish to make your payments via electronic fund transfer from your bank account, debit or credit card. By choosing the electronic method of payment, you will need to set up the automatic payments on the parish website. **Please visit: <https://bit.ly/StMarys2025CC>**

Gifts of Stock: Donors can use their own broker/agent or the parish agent to transfer stock. If the stock has been held long-term (over one year), the donor does not have to pay capital gains tax on the stock, and is allowed a tax deduction for the full value of the stock. Donors may also choose to sell stock in order to claim a loss, which may be beneficial for tax circumstances. In either case, the stock must first be transferred to the parish before being liquidated. Please contact the parish office for more information.

Gifts from qualifying Retirement Accounts: 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 each year tax-free from a qualifying IRA to charity, called a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). Additionally, the gift will count as your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) but will not be included in your adjusted gross income. Please contact your financial advisor for additional information concerning gifts via qualified retirement accounts as these provisions continue to change year to year.

Gifts of Property, Life Insurance, Annuities, Wills or Bequests: There are different ways to support St. Mary's Catholic Church both today and in the years to come via planned giving. Families or individuals can make gifts of life insurance, estate bequests, annuities, or charitable remainder trusts. For substantial gifts of property other than marketable securities, the IRS requires an appraisal. Please contact the parish office for more information.

Federal and state laws on income and inheritance taxes encourage charitable giving. It may be particularly advantageous for some people to contribute stocks, appreciated securities, annuities, property or other valuables. In many cases, the tax savings may be more than your original investment in the gift. Because each situation is unique, we urge you to discuss such donations with a financial advisor.

Need For Generosity

Our St. Mary's community is looking to raise a minimum of \$5 million through the efforts of this campaign. Every member of our parish community is integral to our success in reaching this goal, and, therefore, each family is asked to consider making a pledge to the campaign to the best of their ability.

All are asked to prayerfully consider how their generosity can reflect their gratitude for the gifts that God has given them. We know that a sacrificial pledge will be a challenge for some of our parish households; therefore, it is vital to the success of our campaign that those who are able to make larger pledges do so.

Individuals who are financially capable of pledging \$10,000 \$25,000, \$50,000, or more, are asked to step forward and become leaders of our campaign. Please review the Suggested Gift Plans on the previous page and choose a plan that is right for you and your family.

Each family is asked to consider a minimum pledge of \$6,000 or more, payable over three years. A pledge of \$6,000, after a down payment of \$600, is \$150 per month for three years.... this breaks down to only \$4.93 a day. Our goal is 100% participation; your gift or pledge in any size WILL make a difference!



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CAMPAIGN PRAYER

HEAVENLY FATHER

we glorify You and we thank You
for all the many blessings You
bestow on us as members
of the one Body of Christ, Your Son.

By the power of the Holy Spirit
inspire us with hope,
confidence, and trust
in our pledge to reignite
our faith and the faith of those
who will come after us.
Give us the grace to live fully
our Christian calling,
to strengthen the life of our parish,
to impart and deepen
the faith among all age groups,
especially the youth,
to expand our charitable outreach
in the name of Christ,
and to plan wisely for the future.

We make our prayer through
Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Thank you

Many people contribute to the
life of our parish. Our deepest
gratitude extends to the members
of the Parish Staff, Campaign
Committee and Campaign
Volunteers, who have given the
gifts of their time and talents to
make this campaign a success.

