

CASE FOR SUPPORT

Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish | Glassboro, NJ



OUR HISTORY

Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish

In 1940, Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish began as a mission of the Parish of Saint Bridget in Glassboro under the care of the first pastor, Monsignor James Foley. It was the lone Catholic stronghold in Pitman's solidly Methodist population. The church was dedicated in April of 1954, and the local Catholic community consisted of 130 families. Pitman, which has a distinctly small-town feel, has been a place where the families of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish could raise their families with Catholic values in a safe and peaceful atmosphere. The church community cherishes all that their parish was and has come to represent – faith and family.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

Our Lady of Lourdes was established in 1966, also as a mission of the Parish of Saint Bridget, and was overseen by its first pastor, Monsignor Stanley Krysiak. The town of Glassboro was initially a factory town, serving the workers of the local glass manufacturing plant. It also boasted Glassboro State College, now known as Rowan University. Glassboro and neighboring Washington Township were growing a strong family base due to the growth of the college and a booming migration of people to the suburbs. Our Lady of Lourdes was established to serve the needs of the growing Catholic community in both the college town and the surrounding township. The parish has been a strong community of welcome, service, and family faith.

Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish

Mary, Mother of Mercy parish was established on June 22, 2011 under the care of its first pastor, Father James Casadia, through the parish merger process that began in 2008. It combines the best aspects of Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. Today, in the care of our pastor Father William Kelly, the parish consists of over 2,200 families. We, as parishioners, strive to live by the mission of our parish: "Together with Mary, our Mother, our Catholic community welcomes all to receive, live, and share the Divine Mercy that comes from Jesus." Mary, Mother of Mercy exudes a sense of hospitality and welcome to all who join us in worship, and share the work of living our lives as disciples of the message of Jesus Christ. Weekly adoration of the Blessed Sacrament supports and enriches this Eucharistic community, and the parish enjoys over 30 active ministries. In addition to these, we are blessed with many models of faith formation to serve parishioners of all ages in and around our community. With God's grace and blessing, we look to the future of the parish as a bastion of Catholic faith and values for many generations to come.

We are asking our parish family to lend generous support to the campaign. As our current parishioners, we now call upon you to carry on the generosity, spirit, and sacrifice that filled the hearts of the men and women who have supported our parish and diocese throughout our history.

As we have been blessed, let us act as stewards by supporting the **Catholic Strong** campaign to preserve the essence of what we and all of the faithful within the greater Church in South Jersey are blessed to have and to ensure the Church's presence in the lives of our children and grandchildren. Your prayers, generosity, and sacrifice will ensure our success.

In Christ Jesus,

Reverend William J. Kelly
Pastor

Mary, Mother of Mercy Parish

OUR PLAN

The Catholic Community of South Jersey continues to reaffirm its commitment to promote the healing, redemptive, and teaching presence of Jesus Christ to those seeking solace, forgiveness, and instruction. We have followed Christ's invitation to love one another, to be a community of faith, and to share our gifts in a spirit of stewardship and gratitude.

As vital and active members of the Diocese of Camden wishing to make our contribution, we are beginning the **Catholic Strong** campaign to provide the resources needed to ensure our parishes are financially stable, strengthen Catholic education, expand our outreach capabilities, and enhance our evangelization efforts. A successful campaign will ensure the vitality of our faith communities and ultimately meet the evolving needs of our diocese.

Every parish will share in these efforts with an allocated goal. Our parish campaign target is to raise a minimum of **\$1,125,000**, of which we will receive 70% (or a minimum of \$787,500), that will go toward parish needs. Additionally, we will receive 80% of all funds raised over our parish target. We will use our share to address the following needs:

Capital Improvements to the Parish | \$375,000

- Install a handicap-accessible bathroom in Our Lady Queen of Peace church
- Repair and refurbish all existing bathrooms at both churches
- Repair the carillon bells at both churches
- Repair damaged sidewalk, steps, and concrete at both churches
- Repair roofs in the rectory and parish office building
- Restore railings of rectory porch and repaint siding and trim
- Replace damaged drainage systems at all facilities
- Build permanent choir area at Our Lady of Lourdes Church
- Install outdoor security systems at both churches
- Upgrade phone system at parish office
- Pave walkway in IHM prayer garden at Our Lady of Lourdes' campus
- Replace aging HVAC systems at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Mercy Hall, and parish office
- Purchase classroom furniture for Mercy Hall classrooms

Parish Ministries, Evangelization, and Faith Formation | \$205,000

- New vestment sets and liturgical vessels for daily and holiday use (Naming opportunities available)
- Host meet and greet events for our parish families
- Ministry and Mission activities for youth and young families
- Provide scholarships for retreats, faith formation programs, and Catholic school education for all parishioners

Parish Project Fund | \$207,500

- Remaining funds not spent above will be available for unforeseen parish projects and repairs

** Above costs are projections and require diocesan consultation and approval. All projects are considered pending until campaign funds are realized.*

PARISH GOAL

\$1,125,000

(We will receive \$787,500)

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