



God's HOUSE *Our* HOME

ST. MARY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

- Psalms 26:8



My Dear Parishioners,

What a joy and blessing it is for me to be your pastor here at St. Mary. The love and appreciation I feel from this community invigorates my spirit to serve you and the Lord as best I can. This parish has blessed us abundantly with great and generous people over the years. We celebrate with great pride and thanksgiving the achievements both of our past and of the present. Our church serves as a beacon of hope to so many and as we begin preparations to celebrate our 200th anniversary, it is with great excitement that I announce the **God's House, Our Home** capital campaign. We have waited for many years for this to happen. What was once a hope and dream is now becoming reality for our parish.

The time has come!

In choosing the theme of **God's House, Our Home**, we reflect on the expressed desire by so many that God be honored in our beautiful house of worship that is St. Mary Church and to safeguard the future of the Catholic faith here in Claremont. As you know, we have a long and celebrated history, and we are now called upon to ensure this history is honored and nurtured for many years to come. St. Mary Church is **God's house and our home**.

I, along with the members of our Capital Campaign committee are seeking your generous help as we look to address significant structural needs to our beloved St. Mary Church. Through this campaign, we will look to raise a minimum of \$750,000 to address our most pressing needs. We indeed have a significant challenge before us and I am confident that together we can achieve our goals. This will take significant sacrifice from all. May our gifts, therefore, be a reflection of our true appreciation of the gifts that God has given us.

My beloved parishioners, we can do this. Boldly and generously stepping forward, we can ensure that the only debt we pass on to the next generation will be a debt of gratitude to the generous sacrifices offered to those whose shoulders we stand upon. Please pray and consider your generous participation and offerings to the campaign and your commitment to **God's House, Our Home**.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in gold ink, reading "Rev. Maria Sebastian Susairaj".

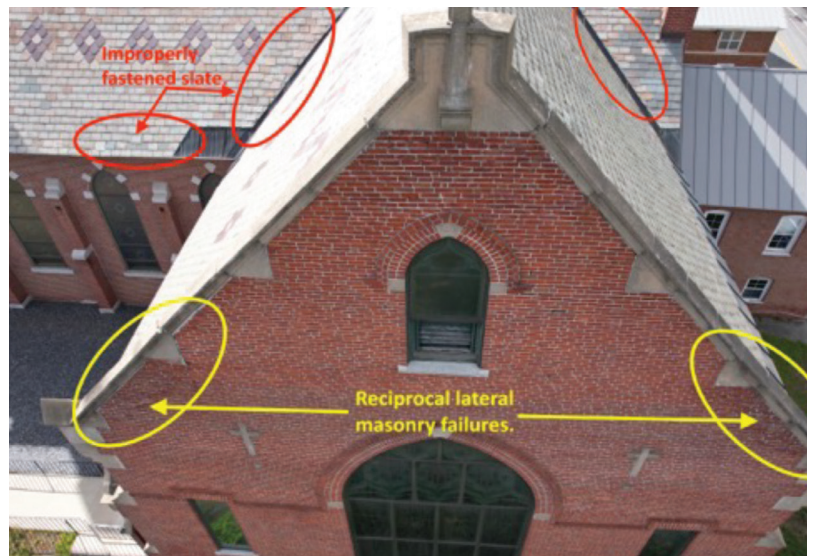
Reverend Maria Sebastian Susairaj, HGN

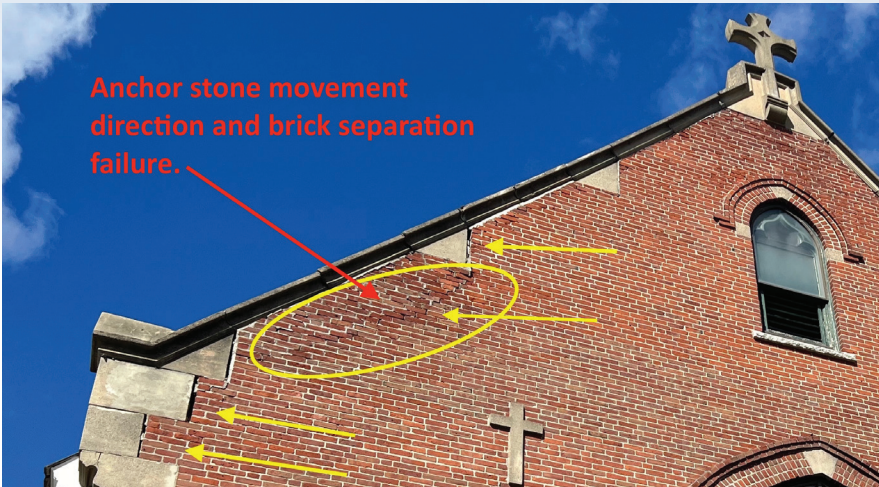
OUR CHALLENGE

Old St. Mary Catholic Church was built in 1823; God's house, the oldest Catholic church here in New Hampshire! It is the foundation of our history, our first home and a source of pride for many who call St. Mary their home.

In 1870, we built anew on Central Street. For the past 150 years, it has served as the backdrop for so many of our gatherings and celebrations.. The years however have been unkind. Mother Nature was been relentless, renovations, modifications and repairs undertaken, and truth be told - mistakes were made (i.e. sandblasting the brick). All of these hardships and decisions have taken their toll on our beloved church and we are now called to return 'God's House, Our Home' back to its glorious condition.

After much prayerful study and discussion among the Staff, Finance Council and various professionals, it has been decided to undertake a parish-wide Capital Campaign to raise the funds necessary to improve our parish church and, if possible, address some other items as well.





Exterior Repairs & Restoration

Church Steeple and Front Entry

- Repair water damage and deterioration to steeple foundation
- Repoint brick (where needed), replace damaged brick and apply new coat of sealant
- Replace rotting wood trim and broken/missing/loose slate tiles
- Restore entrance door spires

East Wing Exterior and Roof Parapets

- Address below grade drainage and roof level storm water runoff
- Replace roof parapet and coping stones (concrete edging along the roofline)
- Repoint brick (where needed), replace damaged brick and apply new coat of sealant

North Elevation (Main St.)

- Repoint brick (where needed), replace damaged brick and apply new coat of sealant
- Install flashing on radial roof above sacristy and reseal exterior wall
- Replace missing/broken/loose slate tiles on roof
- Rebuild and reseal retaining wall
- Repair and repoint northwest chimney (northeast chimney repaired in 2019)

West Wing Exterior and Roof Parapets

- Repair roof parapet and coping stones (concrete edging along the roofline)
- Repoint brick (where needed), replace damaged brick and apply new coat of sealant

Plaza

- Address drainage and storm water runoff
- Clean, repair and reseal plaza concrete

Preliminary project construction budget: \$750,000



As we approach the 150th anniversary year of our current church, we have the unique opportunity to express our thanks to those who came before us, who nurtured our faith and who sacrificed to build what we have today. Likewise, we have the ability to prepare for the future so that our children and grandchildren can be provided for in faith, with a church and parish that is safe and secure.



Need For Generosity

The St. Mary community is looking to raise a minimum of \$750,000 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.

Everyone is 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 following page and choose a plan that is right for you and your family.

Each family is asked to consider a minimum pledge of \$4,000 or more, payable over three years. A pledge of \$4,000, after a down payment of \$400, is \$100 per month for three years or \$3.29 a day.

Suggested Pledge Chart

Total Gift	10% Down Payment	3 Annual Payments	12 Quarterly Payments	36 Monthly Payments	Daily Sacrifice
\$250,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$18,750.00	\$6,250.00	\$205.48
\$100,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$82.19
\$50,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$3,750.00	\$1,250.00	\$41.10
\$25,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$1,875.00	\$625.00	\$20.55
\$10,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$750.00	\$250.00	\$8.22
\$8,000.00	\$800.00	\$2,400.00	\$600.00	\$200.00	\$6.58
\$5,000.00	\$500.00	\$1,500.00	\$375.00	\$125.00	\$4.11
\$4,000.00	\$400.00	\$1,200.00	\$300.00	\$100.00	\$3.29

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.

As You Make Your Pledge, Please Remember...

- Payments may be made over a period of three (3) years. A longer period can be arranged if necessary.
- Payment reminders will be mailed to you in accordance with the payment plan you choose.
- Pledge payments are fully deductible for tax purposes.
- Please make checks payable to: **God's House, Our Home**

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Your Decision to Give

No one can tell you how much you should give. The individual parishioner/family is the only one who actually decides what to contribute, since the financial obligations of each family are different. What you give will be held in the strictest confidence. Please review the Suggested Gift Plans and choose a plan that is right for you and your family.



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

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 **God's House, Our Home**. You will be mailed payment reminders and a special payment envelope in accordance with the payment plan you choose. 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 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. 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/givetostmary>

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 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.

If you have any questions about the campaign or making your pledge, please contact the Parish Office at 603.542.9518

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.



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





Abba Father,

Creator of all things and Source of life,
everything belongs to You,
"the earth and in its fullness;
the world and those who dwell in it."*
All that we have and all that we are,
is Your gift.

Loving Father, help us always to use
Your gifts wisely and
teach us to share them generously.
Let our work find its origin in You
and reach completion through You.

May our faithfulness and generosity
bear witness to the Love of Christ
in our lives.

We make this prayer through
Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Holy Mary, Help of Christians,
Pray for us.

*Ps 24:1-2

Thank You

Many people contribute to the
life of our parish and provide
vision for our future. 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 project a success.

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