

The background image is a grayscale photograph of a church interior. It shows rows of wooden pews facing towards the front of the church. The ceiling is high and features a series of large, arched structural ribs. On the right side, there are tall, narrow arched windows that allow light into the space. In the foreground on the left, a portion of a pulpit or lectern is visible. The overall atmosphere is one of a large, open, and somewhat empty sacred space.

MISSION

C R I T I C A L

A CAMPAIGN FOR BUILDING RENEWAL



CAMPAIGN PRAYER

We give you thanks, Lord, for this community of Saint Thomas the Apostle where we've come to know your love for us and are challenged to share that love with others.

We thank you for those who have gone before us whose faith and sacrifices provided the structures that allow us to serve your mission. We ask you to be with us now as we are called to be generous – to provide the resources that are critical to our continued and ever-growing fulfilment of that mission.

May we be good stewards of this moment, generous and faithful in our response, so that your love may shine forth in all that we do.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Dear Parishioners,

Throughout our history, parishioners of St. Thomas the Apostle have been called upon numerous times to strengthen our parish and meet the needs of our community. Each time our members have responded generously, allowing our faith community to expand and grow stronger.

While our parish is blessed, we now face a serious challenge. Our church and school buildings are in desperate need of upgrades and improvements.

These needs are critical and are preventing us from accomplishing our mission to grow in our Catholic faith and provide the best education experience possible for our students. Many of these projects will also enhance safety throughout our campus.

The task before us is *Mission Critical*. As we address this challenge, ask the Holy Spirit how you can respond generously to meet the needs of our parish. Our community has been blessed with many gifts and I have confidence that we will be able to accomplish our goal. Please join me in praying for the success of the campaign.

God Bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Reding".

Fr. Michael Reding
Pastor





Our History



For more than 100 years, St. Thomas the Apostle has served Catholics in southwest Minneapolis by creating a community that welcomes, worships, seeks wisdom and bears witness to God's love. The good stewards who established the parish and those who followed all contributed to our parish legacy. As we move forward, we, too, must do our part to further that mission by providing for our future.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission, built upon and rooted in that of the universal church, is to proclaim the Gospel, make Jesus known and loved, and bring people into a saving relationship with God in the power of the Holy Spirit.



In 2015, a group of parish leaders came together to develop the *Faith in Our Future* strategic plan to ensure a viable, vibrant and faith-filled community at St. Thomas the Apostle. We identified many opportunities for the future of our parish, and a plan was developed that focuses on promoting the unity, growth and financial stability of the parish community. Over the past three years, our staff and volunteers have implemented many aspects of the strategic plan by improving our ministries, launching a new parish identity, adding staff, and completing several maintenance and facility improvement projects.

As part of the *Faith in Our Future* strategic plan, the parish formed a facilities committee composed of several members with expertise in construction and hired Opus Design Build to conduct a facility review. This process identified numerous maintenance needs throughout our campus. The review allowed us to determine which needs are most critical and could result in additional problems if not addressed immediately. Unfortunately, the funds needed to address the most critical needs exceed our regular maintenance budget, and it became necessary to explore other options for funding.

In July, we conducted a planning study to measure the level of financial support and commitment to address these critical needs through a capital campaign. Every parish family was invited to participate in the study. After hearing the positive results of the planning study, parish leaders recommended that we move forward with a capital campaign.

.....

The *Mission Critical: A Campaign for Building Renewal* capital campaign will enable us to fulfill our mission now and in the future by making our campus the best environment for our parishioners and students to be nurtured in our Catholic faith. Without the proceeds of this campaign, our ability to continue to fulfill our mission will be seriously compromised.



Campaign Goals

The goal of *Mission Critical: A Campaign for Building Renewal* is to advance our mission by addressing key maintenance issues and facility improvements throughout our campus. The total cost to accomplish our goal is \$3,849,800, which would allow us to complete the following projects:



REPLACE THE BOILER AND ADD AN AIR HANDLING SYSTEM FOR THE CHURCH AND SCHOOL (\$1,716,000)

We need to replace the 93-year-old boiler system that heats our church and school. The current system is inefficient to run and expensive to maintain because of the difficulty in finding replacement parts.

Replacing the steam boiler with a hot water boiler and replacing associated pipes, radiators and controls as required will provide maintenance and utilities cost savings. In addition, the school, chapel and gymnasium have no central system for circulating air.

Adding an air handling unit will improve the air quality in these areas and provide a healthier environment.

REBUILD SCHOOL RESTROOMS (\$459,300)

The restrooms throughout the school building are used during the school day as well as by parishioners and visitors attending faith formation classes and events. We need to replace the plumbing, drain pipes, flooring, ceilings, fixtures, partitions and accessories in all six restrooms. In addition, the restrooms will be brought up to current building and plumbing code and be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). These necessary remodels will improve the functionality, safety and appearance of our restrooms.

MAINTAIN THE EXTERIOR OF THE CHURCH AND SCHOOL (\$562,800)

Due to the age of our school and church buildings, the brickwork in some areas is deteriorating, which allows water to enter the buildings. The maintenance required includes cleaning, repairing, re-caulking and resealing masonry where needed as well as replacing the lintels on the school windows. Fixing the masonry in these areas and rebuilding the steel and brick lintels will prevent further damage and improve the appearance of our campus.





REPAIR WINDOWS IN THE CHURCH AND SCHOOL (\$262,500)

Replace the upper church and tower windows and frames (\$226,500):

The wood frames around the upper windows in the church and the windows in the northeast tower have rotted, causing water damage in these areas. Replacing these windows will prevent additional water damage and make our buildings more energy efficient.

Repair broken panes and hardware on school windows (\$36,000):

Some windows on our school building are damaged with broken panes and hardware. Replacing these panes, re-caulking and repairing broken windows will improve the appearance of the building and protect it from outside elements.

UPDATE THE ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS IN THE SCHOOL (\$193,900)

Upgrade high voltage and lighting in the school (\$138,600):

The expanded use of technology and other electrical equipment in the school building has created an increased demand for power. Improvements to the electrical system will include replacing the fuse system with circuit breakers and providing additional outlets in each classroom. This will improve the functionality of technology in the classroom, provide for future growth and improve overall safety in the building.

Update the fire alarm system (\$55,300):

The current fire alarm system in the school is functional but not up to code. Replacing this system will ensure a safe environment for students, guests and parishioners.



Campaign Goals



REPAIR WATER DAMAGE IN THE CHURCH (\$72,900)

Repair parts of the wall and ceiling (\$36,400):

Water damage in the sanctuary has caused cracks in parts of the ceiling and walls. After we've prevented future water incursion, repairing and repainting the damaged areas will help improve the appearance of our worship space.

Add a storm water drainage system near the southwest corner of the school (\$36,500):

Rain water enters the mechanical room of our church causing an unsafe slippery floor. Installing a drainage system will prevent water from entering the building and the possibility of mold.

UPGRADE THE HEATING, VENTILATION AND AIR CONDITIONING (HVAC) SYSTEM IN THE PARISH CENTER (\$450,400)

For the HVAC unit in the Parish Center to function properly and more efficiently, upgrades, including the strategic replacement of fan coils and installing a new chiller and condensing unit, are necessary. The installation of an air handling system is also required to provide air ventilation and circulation throughout the building to improve the air quality and environment.

REPLACE THE SOUND SYSTEM IN THE CHURCH (\$80,000)

We'll install a digital system that will include new speakers and will provide better sound quality. This will correct the current sound problems that detract from Mass.



ADDRESS LIGHTING NEEDS (\$52,000)

Install light switches in the church (\$10,300):

Most lights in our church do not currently have switches. To turn on the lights, one must use the circuit breakers, which were not built for this type of regular use. Installing light switches will prevent damage to the breaker system and make it easier to control lighting in the sanctuary.

Install exterior lighting for the parish center (\$14,000):

The parish center lacks sufficient lighting on walkways, driveways, and some parts of the parking lot. Installing lighting will address safety and security concerns for our staff and visitors when entering and leaving the building.

Replace lighting in the church (\$27,700):

New LED lights will have a longer life and create energy savings. The new lights will also provide more illumination and will have dimming capabilities.

Our facility and maintenance needs are much greater than the projects detailed above. If our campaign raises additional funds, they will be used to repair school floors, replace hallway tile, and provide for the future replacement of the school roof.

**Some projects will
require asbestos
abatement. The final
cost will be determined
by timing and scope of
work as needed.*



Your Gift or Pledge

As you prayerfully consider supporting our *Mission Critical* campaign, we hope you will reflect on what St. Thomas the Apostle means to you, to our school students, our faith formation students, alumni, our faculty and staff, our parish community and beyond.

To conduct a successful campaign and achieve our goals, St. Thomas the Apostle will rely upon the generosity of parishioners, school and faith formation families, past parents, alumni, faculty, staff, the business community, and other community supporters. Please consider making a sacrificial gift for our efforts to make St. Thomas a stronger and brighter environment for our faith community.



Ways to Give

There are many avenues of giving to allow you to meet your needs and have the opportunity to support St. Thomas in a meaningful way. Pledges are commitments made in good faith but are not legally binding. You may want to consider stretching your pledge over a three-year period to maximize the total amount of your support. This commitment can be fulfilled through monthly, quarterly, semiannual or annual installments. Your gift is intended solely to support the *Mission Critical: A Campaign for Building Renewal* capital campaign and can only be used for its goals.

We encourage all donors to consider a 10-20 percent initial payment to begin your commitment to help us address our immediate needs.



ONLINE GIVING

You may set up an automatic withdrawal or payment from a bank account, credit card or debit card to make initial gifts and recurring payments. Please visit us at stthomasmpls.org to complete this process.

GIFTS OF SECURITIES

Charitable gifts of stocks, bonds or mutual funds that have appreciated in value can have an immediate impact on our campaign and provide an income tax deduction for you based on their current value. Please contact Julie Wickland at (612) 922-0041 or jwickland@stthomasmpls.org for more information.

CORPORATE MATCHING GIFTS

A matching gift program provided through your employer or board membership may allow you to increase the value of your gift. Many companies match charitable gifts made by their employees, retirees or board members.

PLANNED GIFTS

Planned giving is the process of carefully selecting the best method and asset for making a charitable gift. Such a gift can enable you to take full advantage of tax laws to accomplish your financial and charitable goals. Planned gifts can be made in the following ways: bequests by a will or living trust, charitable remainder trusts, charitable gift annuities, charitable lead trusts, beneficiary benefits from IRAs, pensions or financial accounts.

Note: This information is not intended as legal advice. You are advised to consult your own qualified professional advisor for specific recommendations.



CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

Fr. Michael Reding

Pastor

CAMPAIGN CABINET

Russ and Barb Andrews

Ray Bonnabeau

Kevin Brown and Susan Whitney-Brown

Kathy Cahill

Doug and Mary Cleary

Susan and Hein de Hoog

Susan Jepsen

Jim and Kathleen Karges

Bill and Susan Kirkpatrick

Chris and Mylene Kocourek

Tom McGuire

Sara and Matthew Michel

Matt Samuel

Don and Annie Smithmier

Tom Vitt and Kamala Udayamurthy

DEVELOPMENT COUNSEL

Steier Group



ST•THOMAS
THE APOSTLE

2914 West 44th Street • Minneapolis, MN 55410 • 612-922-0041 • www.stthomasmpls.org

A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF INCLUSION