

The Bells of Saint Mary's Legacy Campaign

Questions & Answers

Q. What is the breakdown of the \$450,000 goal?

- A. Each year we will fulfill our BAA goal estimated at \$48,000 \$144,000 (3 years)
Each year we will raise \$62,000 for tuition assistance \$186,000 (3 years)
Each year we will raise \$40,000 for *restoration of our historic church buildings \$120,000 (3 years)
*For the year 2008, the bells and clock tower are a priority to restore.

The campaign is scheduled for the years, 2008, 2009 and 2010. Each year our goal is \$150,000. Any money raised above the total goal of \$450,000 will be earmarked for the purpose of tuition assistance and restoration for future years.

Q. Why are we running this effort in combination with the Bishop's Annual Appeal?

- A. The decision was made by Father Thomas and parish leaders to combine the efforts with the BAA because it allows our parish to gain the most funding. First and foremost we are exempt from the 5 percent diocesan tax assessed on funds that are collected by a parish. In addition, throughout this process the diocese has provided professional guidance and assistance with the campaign process. The Office of Development and Planning will manage the pledge collections and redemptions, as well as clerical assistance that would otherwise cost the parish a significant amount to hire additional help or professional consultants.

Running our efforts with the BAA also means that we will fulfill our obligation for each year's BAA goal. For 2008, our goal is estimated at \$48,000 and we anticipate that our goal for the next two year will not increase more than 15 percent. **All monies paid over this goal will come back to Saint Mary's 100 percent.**

**Q. When will the restoration of the bells and clock tower begin?
How will future restoration projects be decided?**

- A. Our hope is to repair the bells and clock tower as soon as the funds are available. Other restoration projects will be decided by Father Thomas, the Maintenance Committee, and the parish leaders. We will also take into consideration the suggestions of our parishioners.

Q: How will we increase participation for this effort?

- A: Our plan is to reach out to all friends and families of Saint Mary's Catholic Church and share the fundraising details through one on one meetings with either Father Thomas or the leaders of the parish. A series of six informational receptions will be held in order to communicate the need for participation and campaign promotional materials will be provided, such as bulletin inserts, pulpit announcements, phone calls, brochures, and various letters will be mailed.

Q. My children do not attend Saint Mary School, why should I support this campaign?

- A. The current plan truly offers something for everyone at Saint Mary's Catholic Church. We are restoring our historic buildings that have been here close to 150 years. The school is part of the original campus and has been an important part of our parish since its inception, and investing in the effort keeps the school strong and viable. It is important for the life of the parish and for surrounding parishes. Our school is an important instrument for evangelization.

Q. How is tuition assistance determined and allocated?

- A. Tuition assistance is determined by the financial need of each family. An application is submitted by the family and a process through a company called FACTS assists us in prioritizing those who will receive tuition assistance. Each year approximately \$147,000 is allocated to needy families. In the 2007-2008 school year 90 students were awarded some level of aid.

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Q. I am on a fixed income, why should I support this campaign?

A. It takes gifts of all sizes to achieve success in this campaign. The gift plans highlighted in the campaign brochure are not intended to identify the only size gifts that will be accepted by the campaign, but rather are highlighted for the purpose of challenging donors to be as generous as they can. All gifts will be greatly appreciated. It is not about equal giving, but shared sacrifice that will unite our community in an important way. We need everyone's support.

Q. How do I find out if the company I work for participates in Matching Gifts? What is the process I must follow in order to take advantage of the Matching Gifts?

A. Contact your Human Resources Department to find out if your company participates in the Matching Gifts Program. If they do, they will have the appropriate paperwork for you to fill out. Please remember: the amount that you would like to pledge should be indicated on the PLEDGE line and should be independent of the amount that your company will match.

Q. What are our long range plans for the school?






A. Father Thomas, Sister Regina, and former Columbus Mayor, Greg Lashutka along with representatives of our school board and the diocesan school office are working on a plan for the future of our school. Right now we are in the preliminary stages.

Q. How are the funds being used from the previous campaign, Partners of the Future Campaign?

A. The funds of the Partners for the Future Campaign are strictly for the use of the physical structures of the school. We will use these funds for such structural projects like the sidewalks, which are hazardous and a liability to us.

Q. What other sources are we using to seek funding for our needs?

A. Other funding being pursued:

-  Applied for a grant with the Catholic Foundation for the bell and clock tower
-  The Gala, Golf Outing and Aaron Diehl concerts
-  Asking families to investigate a Matching Gift program with their employers
-  Asking alumni to participate
-  Long range plan being formed with parish, school and community leaders