



Our Lady of the Assumption

145 Stratford Road
Stratford, PE

“Investing in Hope” Campaign

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish has launched its “Investing in Hope” fundraising campaign to raise \$1 million and we need your help to achieve this ambitious goal. There are four components to this FIVE-YEAR project: SPECIAL FUNDRAISER EVENTS, BUSINESS AND CORPORATE APPEAL, PLANNED GIVING, and the PLEDGE CAMPAIGN.

The success of the PLEDGE CAMPAIGN will be key to fund the long-term capital needs of our parish which will ensure the continued sustainability of our church. This Pledge Campaign is separate from our weekly Sunday offerings which fund the operating costs of our parish. We would like to personally thank you for all the support you have given to our church in the past, monetary, or otherwise. Your support is necessary and much appreciated!

When Our Lady of the Assumption Church was built in the late 1980s, we raised over \$1 million to offset a large portion of the capital cost of the construction of the church. We have not had a fundraising campaign since our inaugural capital campaign. As our church approaches 35 years of age, some capital repairs are required to properly maintain our church and prevent even higher future repair costs while lowering our operating costs. See the detailed information below on our most pressing capital repair needs.

A fundraising committee was formed to review the long-term financial needs of our church. The Property and Finance Committee analyzed the capital needs of our church—both short-term and long-term. A fundraising committee was tasked to find ways to raise the necessary funds required to pay for these much-needed repairs. After many meetings and excellent discussions, it was decided that we should launch a fundraising campaign to raise \$1 million to not

Analysis of Capital Needs

The Property and Finance Committee has identified and prioritized the following required repairs for our parish:

- **ROOF:** The church’s roof has been replaced in sections two or three times since the church was built and needs to be replaced again. Steel roofing would have a life span of about 100 years and, while expensive initially, would be cheaper in the long term.
- **SIDING:** The wood shingles are nearing the end of their lifespan and need to be replaced in some areas. The exterior of the church also needs to be repainted. Replacing the shingles with vinyl siding (with a shingle look) would be the most cost-effective solution in the long term.
- **HEAT PUMPS:** The use of heat pumps in the main church is a more efficient way to heat the space while lowering our energy costs. They also give us the benefit of cooling the church during the warmer days.
- **AV SYSTEM:** An improved audio/visual system in the main church would create a better Mass experience for parishioners as hymns, prayers, etc. could be displayed on larger screens.
- **HEATING SYSTEM:** Finish the upgrade to the church’s heating system.
- **SIDEWALK/WALKWAYS:** Repair the concrete walkways which are cracked and uneven will prevent possible injuries and improve accessibility.
- **ELECTRONIC SIGNS:** Install two electronic signs at both entrances (replace the current manual letter sign) to improve our communication to parishioners and the public about mass times, special events and services as well as many other messages.
- **RECTORY**
 - Heat Pumps - Heat pumps in the rectory would reduce our energy costs.
 - Windows - New windows would improve the energy efficiency of the rectory and reduce costs.
 - Painting - Repair and repaint the interior walls.
- **CONTINGENCY** for unexpected repairs

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish ~ "Investing in Hope" Pledge Campaign

only address the priorities identified by the Property and Finance Committee, but to also create a capital reserve fund for the future capital needs of our parish. Our hope is that by raising this significant amount, we will not require another capital fundraising campaign of this magnitude and can rely on our reserves to fund future projects. But we need your help to achieve this ambitious goal.

"Investing in Hope" Pledge Campaign

Our Pledge Campaign will provide the largest source of funds from our Fundraising Campaign. Parishioners and Friends of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish will be able to pledge their support to our church over a five-year period. Attached to this document is a pledge form which you can fill out. The pledge form will include details on payment amounts, payment options, etc. The pledge form is also available by clicking on the "Investing in Hope" Pledge Campaign button at holyfamilypastoralunit.com.

Tax Benefits of Charitable Giving

Charitable donations exceeding \$200 in any calendar year receive federal and provincial income tax credits totalling 45.7% of your donation amount. Thus, your net cost (after tax savings) is 54.3% of your total donation. Examples of your donation, tax savings and net cost are as follows:

Yearly Donation Amount	Tax Savings (45.7%)	Net cost (54.3%)	Net Cost/Week
\$ 500	\$ 228.50	\$ 271.50	\$ 5.22
\$1,000	\$ 457.00	\$ 543.00	\$10.44
\$1,500	\$ 685.50	\$ 814.50	\$15.66
\$3,000	\$1,371.00	\$1,629.00	\$31.33
\$5,000	\$2,285.00	\$2,715.00	\$52.21

Payment Options

Pledges can be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, annually or on a one-time basis. Payment options include: cheque or cash, pre-authorized payment or e-transfer.

What Can You Do?

We are requesting you to be a part of this important legacy-building campaign. Your donation is important and appreciated and will ensure the long-term sustainability of our parish. We thank you in advance for your support. *You can also volunteer on the Pledge Campaign Sub-committee by reaching out to other Parishioners or Friends of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish.*

If you have any questions about this pledge campaign, please feel free to contact us at:

**holyfamilypastoralunit@bellaliant.com
or 902-569-4769**

Message from Fr. Jim

*Dear Friends,
Our Lady of the Assumption Church building which opened in 1989 has served us well for the past 35 years, but through time has begun to show its age and needs some major repairs and restoration. We want to maintain our Church and Hall as a place to celebrate and worship God and to build community through the Catholic faith we share.*

For this to happen, it would be much appreciated if you would make a pledge to our "Investing in Hope" Campaign. Any contribution you make will be an investment in hope for the future.

*Fr. James Willick
Pastor, Our Lady of the Assumption Parish*

