

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Stoney Creek, Ontario

OUR OPPORTUNITY

In the *One Heart, One Soul* campaign video, Bishop Crosby shares an important message about those times we face challenges. He says: “When things get difficult, a lot of people think, ‘I’m going to quit!’ It’s not the answer. Work together! Build it up and make it better!” Oh, how these words have taken on such meaning as we have faced the challenges brought on by the Coronavirus.

In the last year or so, there was some hopeful talk about the possibility of building a new church for Our Lady of the Assumption Parish. However, in getting a better idea of the public planning for our area and discussions with the Diocese, it has become obvious that this is not going to happen anytime soon. This, of course, could be discouraging and could put a real damper on our parish community spirit.

Yet, if we hear the Bishop’s words and listen and trust what God has in store for our parish, then we know our call is exactly this: work together, build up the church we have – inside and out - and make it better! We believe the projects we propose answer the challenge we face and, by carrying them out, we will give glory to God and provide a wonderful benefit to our community and those called to join us in faith.



“When I arrived at Assumption three years ago, I learned quickly that I was joining a beautiful parish family. I have seen time and again your love for God, each other, and the community around us. This has been especially true in the challenges of the last year. With Christ as our guide, this parish has found ways to come together for worship and support and has reached out to those who are still at home. I am glad for the *One Heart, One Soul* campaign because it gives us the opportunity to show that same love and support to even more people. This campaign will help not only ourselves, but churches in need. It will support students, hospitals, prisons, and migrant workers. Finally, the investment in our church will prepare a beautiful home for everyone to come back to when all this is over. I truly believe God is blessing us as a parish, and now He invites us to share those blessings.”

FR. DAVID REITZEL, *Pastor*

We have been particularly blessed to receive a special variance to keep more funds for the parish than the original plan for the campaign.

- Through the generous decision by the diocesan campaign leadership to assist us in addressing our needs, **we will keep 80 percent of the first \$383,000 we raise in the campaign.** This is 5 percent more than the original plan for the campaign.
- We keep 85 percent of whatever we raise over \$383,000
- Additionally, there are no costs to the parish for the campaign. The diocese is picking up the costs. All the money raised will be used for campaign projects.

Please consider a sacrificial gift to the campaign so that we make the best of this chance to build up the faith community and the larger community of which we are a part.



ONE HEART, ONE SOUL

A Campaign for the Diocese of Hamilton

PARISH GOAL: \$383,000

For parish campaign projects: \$306,400

- Renovation of the church interior
- Outdoor enhancements

Contribution toward the diocesan priorities

- Shared ministries: \$45,960
- Parishes in need: \$30,640

See the back of this page for more details about the parish needs that we will address through the *One Heart, One Soul* Campaign.

PARISH CAMPAIGN PROJECTS

With trust in the Lord and the generosity of our community we propose the following projects to set our parish on the course to be a thriving community.

RENOVATION OF THE CHURCH INTERIOR (\$231,400)

- † **Sanctuary** – New furnishings, artwork and design elements will be incorporated to set off and beautify the sanctuary space and lend more reverence to the Celebration of the Eucharist.
- † **Choir area** – To give emphasis to the place of music in liturgy a bank of pews will be constructed, so the choir has a permanent and elevated space from which to sing.
- † **Mary and Holy Family Devotional Spaces** – To increase and introduce others to a greater devotion to Mary and the Holy Family, we will enhance these spaces through decoration, votive candles and kneeling space.
- † **Flooring** – The current dark carpeting will be replaced with light coloured ceramic tile throughout the entire church.
- † **Lighting** – Another suggestion to brighten the church is to upgrade the lighting. The lighting fixtures we currently have could be replaced with ones that “throw the light” in a more effective manner.



OUTDOOR ENHANCEMENTS (\$75,000)

- † **Bell Tower** - Three large brass bells have been donated to our parish. These will be restored and hung in a tower to be constructed for the purpose. The bells will have electronic controls to be rung for a variety of occasions: regular-timed Masses, special feasts and celebrations, funerals, etc. The bell tower will have the additional effect of making our church more visible for those travelling along our road.
- † **Signage** – We plan to install a digital sign near the road that is more dynamic and visible. This will assist people to identify where our parish resides as well as provide important information of the happenings at the parish.

*The extent of what and how much we, as a parish family, accomplish is dependent on our reaching or **surpassing** our campaign goal. Please consider a sacrificial gift to the campaign, so we make the best of this chance to build up our parish community.*



For more details about the campaign, the allocation of funds raised, donor privacy, our gift acceptance policy and much more, please visit onehearttonesoul.ca/faq and hamiltondiocese.com.

a Diocese cannot thrive without thriving parishes