

# 2023 Parish Maintenance Summary



Dear Parishioners,

For more than 40 years, PBS has aired a popular DIY home improvement show entitled This Old House, where experts in the trades help guide you through remodeling, carpentry, and maintenance of your home. Memories of that show come to mind as I write to you today, not because I nor my brothers understand the intricacies of building maintenance enough to lift a hammer, but from the show's premise of repurposing or renewing the existing infrastructure in an old home, keeping it updated and cared for to continue for future generations to use and enjoy.

Our spiritual home turns 119 years old this January and needs your help. As you might imagine, a structure built more than 100 years ago requires ongoing maintenance and often significant repairs. My purpose today is to give you an update on the maintenance repairs recently performed on the church and to get your help addressing some significant and necessary repairs that are needed in the coming year. These repairs are going to cost the parish about **\$200,000**, and cannot be delayed. I will also update you on North Campus projects.

As an example of the repairs performed over the past 18 months, we replaced the carpeting, erected a glass enclosure for the choir loft stairwell which created our new reconciliation room, replaced the sacristy closets, and restored the first of our four sets of doors to the church.

The North Campus, although not as old as the church, likewise required repairs. The original building was erected in 1931, and the adjoining buildings were added thereafter, including the cafeteria and kitchen dating to 1960. Over the last 18 months, the North Campus required roofing replacements, air conditioning repairs, and termite treatments. Installation of new lighting was necessary for safety but came with the added benefit of cost efficiency.

The adjacent charts describe the major repair expenses of the last 18 months. These figures do not reflect the day-to-day cost of caring for these two properties. For example, one of our biggest expenses is plumbing. Pipes at both campuses are showing their age, with many aspects of the plumbing at the North Campus needing to be addressed due to leaks and breaks. Multiple AC units at the North Campus are also nearing the end of their useful life span.

## Urgent Repairs Needed at the Church

The first projects of the new year will address issues at the front of the church building, beginning with the cross atop the front façade. The cross needs to be stabilized to prevent it from causing damage to the church building and prevent it from falling. Next, adjustments will be made to repoint and reseal the front façade's rose window, which is leaking and causing water damage inside the wall below. As part of this phase of work, the façade's marble will also be repointed, to repair the weathering and decay to the existing mortar and prevent future water intrusion. Lastly, we will continue with the restoration of the three remaining sets of doors and entryways, which have suffered 118 years of sun and weather damage. You'll likely have seen light peeking through cracks in the wood on these doors. These projects will require scaffolding and, at times, plywood coverings as elements are being refurbished. Our parish is dependent on the stewardship and generosity of its parishioners. The friars and parish leadership would ask that if you are able to make an additional gift to the church, it would go a long way to ensuring the expedient completion of these projects. I would also ask visitors to consider making a gift to Sacred Heart to assist with the repairs. The beauty of our church draws people from all over to pray and celebrate Mass with us. We are only able to maintain the beauty of this historic building with your donations. You can make your gift today at [shfla.org/giving](https://shfla.org/giving).

## The Future of the North Campus

The Maintenance and Finance Committees, as well as the Parish Advisory Board are all in agreement on the current direction to renovate the kitchen as the next major project at the North Campus. Most often used by Hands of Hope, which serves the homeless each weekend, we see the renovation as a chance to expand their reach and function, in addition to future use opportunities for wedding receptions and parish dinners. The ball is already rolling, as a firm has been hired to serve as our owner's representative, tasked with securing the various trades needed to renovate the kitchen. The renovation would require new plumbing and electric. All existing equipment would also need to be replaced. Additionally, since there is no air conditioning in the kitchen, this too would require the installation of a new system. Rough estimates see the renovation costing between **\$750,000 to \$1,000,000** to complete. A fundraiser would be launched to raise the money, but once completed, the potential for income would help offset maintenance costs, with the auditorium's potential to host corporate meetings, weddings, and the like given a fully functioning kitchen.

The main school building and Alumni Hall remain in usable condition and can be upgraded in the future, though we must consider bathroom upgrades for the school. We are currently renting the St. Bonaventure building (former Pre-K building, located between the school and cafeteria) to the engineering and planning firms redeveloping Robles Park Village directly to the North Campus' north and east. Many parishioners regularly contribute to our True North campaign, and some money has already been allocated for this kitchen project to begin, but we are still far from our goal. Any gifts would be greatly appreciated and would quicken our goal for a new kitchen. Those looking to contribute can do so at [shfla.org/givecentral](https://shfla.org/givecentral), by selecting the "True North/Campus" tab.

Thank you for your consideration and commitment to ensuring the future of This Old House, and your spiritual home.

Merry Christmas,

Fr. Michael P. Jones, OFM  
Pastor, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Tampa

## CHURCH PROJECTS

A look at the last 18 months of maintenance

New Carpeting	<b>\$37,000</b>
Glass Enclosure - Reconciliation	<b>\$8,800</b>
Sacristy Closets	<b>\$24,000</b>
Door Restorations (First Set)	<b>\$18,000</b>
Leaks, Water Intrusion	<b>\$6,000</b>

## NORTH CAMPUS PROJECTS

A look at the last 18 months of maintenance

New Roof (School Building)	<b>\$59,000</b>
New Roof (St. Bonaventure Building)	<b>\$18,900</b>
Restoring Electric (St. Bonaventure)	<b>\$6,500</b>
Replace Lighting (St. Bonaventure)	<b>\$3,500</b>
Replacing A/C Units (Auditorium)	<b>\$24,000</b>
Replacing Light Fixtures (Auditorium)	<b>\$7,500</b>
Termite Treatment (Auditorium)	<b>\$4,500</b>
Replacing Light Fixtures (Alumni Hall)	<b>\$2,635</b>

To support Sacred Heart with an additional gift during the season of Advent, scan the QR code or visit [shfla.org/giving](https://shfla.org/giving).

Thank you for your generosity this Christmas.

