

Campaign Prayer



Lord God, we bless You and are filled with gratitude for the numerous gifts, countless blessings, that come from You.

As good stewards of those gifts, be near us as we prepare and provide for the future – “Restoring Our Tradition.”

*Under the care of St. Stephen our patron,
St. Francis our model, Holy Mary our Mother,
may our sacrificial gifts be pleasing to You.*

*Blessed are You, Lord our God, who in the richness of Your
divine love, blesses us with good things.*

Amen!

St. Stephen's Church

Rev. Daniel L. Chapin

9748 Main Street
Croghan, NY 13327

Tel: 315.346.6958

www.ststephenscroghan.rcdony.org

Restoring Our Tradition

St. Stephen's Church



Capital Campaign 2015

Goal \$700,000

Challenge Goal \$1,400,000

Words from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Stephen's,

St. Stephen's needs your help and support with a very challenging and crucial repair and renovation project.

St. Stephen's Parish has a rich history of providing for the spiritual, pastoral and educational needs of our parishioners. We have been blessed over the years with many opportunities to serve our parish families in our walk with Christ. We are thankful for the generations of dedicated people who have given their time, shared their talent and treasure. Many of those people may have been your parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins or former neighbors. Their support and dedication has helped St. Stephen's to remain an active and growing parish. We have come a long way since our humble beginnings in 1831, when our ancestors gathered to pray in a log cabin that had no windows or doors with only an opening covered with cloth to keep out the cold and prevent the wind from putting out the candles.

For several months small pieces of plaster have been found on the carpet in a few locations in church and cracks in the plaster have become more visible. Brian Baker, owner of *Baker Liturgical Art LLC* was contacted and asked to inspect the church ceiling and evaluate the condition of the plaster. Their inspection determined that the ceiling is compromised and needs to be stabilized to prevent possible collapse. The specialized conservation process that *Baker Liturgical Art LLC* will use is a system that will stabilize and repair the ceiling. The beautiful artwork and canvas murals painted by Professor Louis Carracciolo, who studied in Urbino, Italy, can be preserved. We believe the factors that aided in the deterioration of the ceiling will be corrected and the ceiling will be preserved for many future generations. The repair of the ceiling will also assure the safety of our beautiful 1910 Moller Pipe Organ.

St. Stephen's Church was built in 1902 under the direction and guidance of Fr. Leo Heinrichs, OFM. Fr. Leo was sent to rebuild the church after a fire destroyed 21 buildings in the Village. He was a humble Franciscan Friar, dedicated to poverty, chastity and obedience and spent countless hours traveling miles in below zero temperatures to the lumber camps, seeking donations to build this church. Fr. Leo was shot and killed on Feb. 24, 1908 by an anarchist in Denver, Colorado while giving out Holy Communion. One hidden aspect of his life came to light when his body was prepared for burial. He had deep calloused furrows from chains of steel wire, spiked at intervals, and wrapped tightly around both arms and his waist. His name appears in the American Martyrology. He is one of 125 persons who died for their faith here in the United States. There have been 40 extraordinary cures documented and attributed to the intercession of Fr. Leo. His portrait hangs in the back of St. Stephen's Church as a reminder of the deep-seated history and the burdens and sacrifices of our Catholic ancestors. To many, St. Stephen's Church is a landmark. The steeple that rises to 140 feet can be seen from all directions when entering the Village of Croghan.

We need your help in "Restoring Our Tradition." The estimate to repair/restore the ceiling (nave) includes the sanctuary, side aisles, walls, choir loft, vestibules, paint and re-stencil with like colors, cleaning statues, stations of the cross, etc. is \$ 1,400,000.

As we follow in Fr. Leo's footsteps and reach beyond our parish boundaries, we ask you to prayerfully consider a gift from your heart; a gift blessed with your sacrifice; a gift in memory of a loved one; a gift of prayer for guidance and hope.

Please help us to accomplish this massive undertaking. The willingness and dedication of our parish families, extended friends and family as we move forward in "Restoring our Tradition" is also an assurance of securing the future of our Parish for many generations that will follow as a community aware that God is the source of all that we have, a community committed to giving example to the Gospel values of worship, belief, service and a source of hope for our people.

May God bless you and all your loved ones. St. Stephen, pray for us.

Peace,

Rev. Daniel L. Chapin

Rev. Daniel L. Chapin
Pastor



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What projects are planned for my contribution?

With your generous financial support our parish plans to stabilize the church and sanctuary ceilings, restore the murals and artwork, upgrade electrical and add insulation and ventilation to the ceilings and roof area.

Q. When will the work begin?

The major restoration of the ceilings will begin April 2016 and the other projects will follow along as things progress and the funds become available.

Q. What will happen if we go over our goal?

If we should go over our goal, funds will be set aside for future needs.

Q. What if I never make pledges?

Most people take advantage of time-payments for major purchases. A pledge to our Capital Campaign is a "time-payment plan" that makes it possible for you to meet your parish obligations without undue hardship. Pledges enable you to consider a more significant contribution to the campaign rather than a one-time gift.

Q. Is my pledge over and above my Sunday Offering?

Yes. We can only reach our goal with a little extra sacrifice. We cannot reach our goal if we reduce our weekly offerings in order to make a pledge to the Capital Campaign. St. Stephen's Church will continue to have normal operating expenses during the pledge period.

Q. What if I am currently unemployed?

You cannot give what you do not have. You can still pledge and defer payment until your financial situation improves.

Q. Who will be asked to support the Campaign?

Each member of our parish family will be asked to consider a significant gift for this major effort according to his or her financial ability. We will make a special appeal to parishioners who have been blessed by the Lord with exceptional earning ability or have been able to accumulate some assets. We hope each parish family member will play a conscientious role in restoring the heritage and renewing the future of St. Stephen's Church.

Q. What happens if I cannot fulfill my pledge?

Pledges are made in good faith and accepted as such. If hardship or illness prevents you from fulfilling your pledge, let the parish know, and other arrangements will be made.



Q. Will there be additional information made available concerning the Campaign?

Yes. Whenever there is progress to be reported a notice will be placed in the parish bulletin.

Q. How should I make my check payable?

Please make your check payable to:

St. Stephen's Church — Building Fund.

DO I NEED TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT?

We suggest a 10% down payment when the pledge is made, but this is not required. You may give less, give more, or make no down payment at all. The important step is to make the pledge.

Your Commitment

Stocks and Bonds

There are added advantages to giving stocks, bonds, and securities. You not only take credit for a charitable gift at its present value but, if held for more than a year, you are also exempt from paying tax on the profit realized from the original investment. Talk with your financial advisor for more information on making these types of charitable donations.

IRA Gifts

If you are over 70 1/2 years old, you may also be eligible to make a charitable gift from your IRA assets. These types of gifts must be transferred directly and count toward your minimum required distribution. Again, it is always a good idea to speak with your financial advisor for more information.

Wills and Bequests

Providing for St. Stephen's Church in your will can have significant federal and estate tax advantages. For additional information, please contact the Parish Office at 315-346-6958.

Tax Deductible Gifts

All gifts are tax deductible as provided by law. Receipts will be provided upon request.

Matching Gift Programs

Please ask the Human Resources Department at your place of work if they have a program to match your donation. Both current and retired employees may be eligible.



Project Plans



Falling plaster, molding cracks & peeling canvas



are the visible signs of the ceiling's structural faults and the need to stabilize them

St. Stephen's Church † Croghan, NY

It is with a full heart that this offering is shared toward "Restoring Our Tradition"

<p>Name <i>Mr. & Mrs. John Doe</i></p> <p>Address <i>100 East Main Street</i></p> <p>City/ST/Zip <i>Croghan, NY 13327</i></p> <p>Signature <i>Jane Doe</i></p> <p>Telephone <i>315-346-0001</i></p> <p>Envelope # <i>1234</i></p> <p>Date <i>2/15/2016</i></p> <p>Amount Enclosed: <i>\$200</i></p> <p>Balance Due: <i>\$1,800</i></p>	<p>Please Check One of the Boxes Below</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$3,600 <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$7,500 <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>Please check the box next to how you would like to fulfill your commitment</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Annually <input type="checkbox"/> Annually</p> <p>Over a period of: <input type="checkbox"/> 3 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5 years</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I/We are interested in the Automatic Debit program.</p>
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Please make checks payable to: St. Stephen's Church—Building Fund

Sample

Automatic Debit

Automatic debit from your credit card, checking or savings accounts will be available through PayPal. Please visit our website at www.ststephenscroghan.rcdony.org to enroll or contact the Parish Office at 315-346-6958.

Pledge Payments

You will receive reminder notices in accordance with the payment method you select. Please make your checks payable to: **St. Stephen's Church — Building Fund.**



Suggested Gift Plans

We are asking that you consider how generous God has been to you and that you respond in proportion to your own financial ability. As you consider your Christian stewardship, we ask you to prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift, which may be one of the largest gifts you'll give to your faith family.

THREE YEAR GIFT TABLE

Gift Level	Total Pledge	36 Monthly Payments	12 Quarterly Payments	6 Semi-Annual Payments	3 Annual Payments
Capstone	\$50,000	\$1,389	\$4,167	\$8,333	\$16,667
Legacy	\$25,000	\$694	\$2,083	\$4,167	\$8,333
Heritage	\$10,000	\$278	\$833	\$1,667	\$3,333
Founder	\$7,500	\$208	\$625	\$1,250	\$2,500
Pillar	\$5,000	\$139	\$417	\$833	\$1,667
Cornerstone	\$3,600	\$100	\$300	\$600	\$1,200
Builder*	\$2,000	\$56	\$167	\$333	\$667

*Just \$1.87 a day!

FIVE YEAR GIFT TABLE

Gift Level	Total Pledge	60 Monthly Payments	20 Quarterly Payments	10 Semi-Annual Payments	5 Annual Payments
Capstone	\$50,000	\$833	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$10,000
Legacy	\$25,000	\$417	\$1,250	\$2,500	\$5,000
Heritage	\$10,000	\$167	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000
Founder	\$7,500	\$125	\$375	\$750	\$1,500
Pillar	\$5,000	\$83	\$250	\$500	\$1,000

The Suggested Gift Plan encourages financial commitments over a three- or five-year period. The pledge card provides space for you to designate payment intervals: monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. Payment reminders will be sent in accordance with the schedule selected or you may enroll in our Online Giving program. We ask you to keep in mind that it will take gifts at these levels over 36 to 60 months to reach our goal. Pledges enable you to consider a more significant contribution to the campaign rather than a one-time gift.



Tree of Life

The Tree of Life will be located in the back of the Church. All leaves and rocks will be clearly visible and the Tree positioned to allow for unobstructed and well-lit viewing. Donors who pledge at the various gift levels will have their leaf (leaves) placed on the Tree or their rock(s) placed near the base of the Tree. The Tree of Life is a lasting remembrance to the generous aid and caring support of all our parishioners.



SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR GIVING

Total Pledge	Recognition	Gift Level
\$25,000 and above	Large Rock	Legacy
\$10,000	Medium Rock	Heritage
\$7,500	Small Rock	Founder
\$5,000	Leaf with ★★	Pillar
\$3,600	Leaf with ★	Cornerstone
\$2,000	One Leaf	Builder

Q. Why would my family and I wish to have a leaf or a rock on the Giving Tree?

A leaf on the Tree is an everlasting way to remember a loved one; to share your pride in our parish; to celebrate an important, joyous, and memorable event such as the birth of a child or grandchild, a marriage, an anniversary, etc.; as well as a unique way to help your parish financially.

Q. When do I submit my personal inscription for my leaf or rock?

Inscription slips will be sent to you soon after you make your pledge. All you need to do is fill out the inscription slip as you desire and drop it in the mail or bring it to the parish office.

Q. When will my leaf or rock be placed on the Tree?

About three or four weeks after you hand in your inscription slip.

Memorials are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis and are designated only once in the campaign. Donors choosing to sponsor one of the memorials will be permanently recognized.

Murals (3 opportunities) St. Stephen the Martyr, St. Francis of Assisi & Blessed Virgin Mary	\$50,000 each
Angels (7 opportunities)	\$25,000 each
Stations of the Cross Refurbishment (14 opportunities)	\$7,500 each

Please note that there is no direct relationship between the amount of a memorial donation and the actual cost of the item being memorialized. The amount of the memorial is determined by the significance and the desirability of the memorial chosen and goes to absorb the cost of the entire project.

Memorial Opportunities