

SEPTEMBER 2020

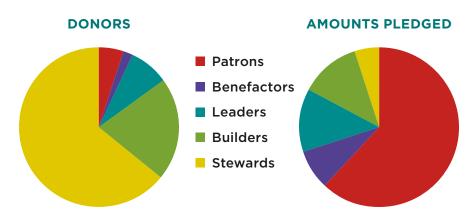
The Campaign was launched on May 29, 2019 with the goal of raising \$1,000,000. However, given the extraordinary gift of \$375,000 that we received from one of our donors, the Campaign Committee decided in October to increase the objective to \$1,300,000. This will provide the parish with a contingency fund to address future projects which, although unspecified at the moment, will no doubt be required.

As of September 8, 2020, we are delighted to inform you that the parish has received commitments of \$1,354,105 towards the Capital Campaign. Of that amount, \$1,113,260 has already been paid, and the balance will be forthcoming over the next ten months.

SUMMARY OF OUR RESULTS TO DATE

	Donors		Amounts pledged
Patrons \$50,000+	10	5%	\$834,300 62%
Benefactors \$25,000-\$49,999	4	2%	\$110,000 8%
Leaders \$10,000-\$24,999	16	8%	\$177,000 13%
Builders \$2,500-\$9,999	42	21%	\$166,200 12%
Stewards \$25-\$2,499	125	64%	\$66,605 5%
TOTAL	197		\$1,354,105

We are very pleased that, so far, the donor list includes almost **50%** of our registered parishioners.







The catwalk between the interior ceiling and exterior roof has been fortified and a special ladder installed to provide safe access to the bell tower.

The Projects & Expenses To Date



Church Tower Repair & Rehabilitation

As was detailed in our campaign brochure, the most important issue needing attention was the church tower where, as a result of persistent water infiltration, the metal structure had rusted considerably. The estimate we received for the required repairs was \$750,000, and we applied for a grant from the Quebec Religious Heritage Council (QRHC) and received \$385,000. We anticipated that \$365,000 of our campaign donations would cover the balance.

With the expert assistance of our consulting engineer, Louis Brillant, we put the project out for bid and were very pleased to receive a proposal from Charbonneau Construction (who have done a lot of work in this area) for \$230,000. With additional costs such as engineering and permits, the total cost will be approximately \$260,000. In addition, the QRHC allows us to apply any balance remaining from their \$385,000 grant to church repair and renovation, provided we keep them informed.



Exterior & Interior Refurbishment

In the campaign brochure, we explained that \$325,000 was required to effect repairs on the church's masonry and the caulking around the stained glass windows; in addition, the pews needed cleaning and restoration, and the linoleum under the pews needed to be replaced. The one project that has been completed is the refurbishment of the pews, which cost \$35,640. As a consequence of COVID-19, however, most of the other work will need to be deferred until the current restrictions have been lifted.



Skilled technicians removed the console from the organ, lowered it on a lift from the choir loft to ground level and transported it to the Casavant workshop in St-Hyacinthe.





Repair & Restoration of the Casavant Organ

In January 2019, Casavant Frères submitted a very detailed estimate for the organ restoration, totaling \$836,600. In the campaign brochure, we focused on the two first major elements of this restoration (the console, bellows and blowers) and the amount identified was \$310,000. After consultation with Casavant this past June, the wardens decided to proceed with the replacement of the console, bellows and blowers at a cost of \$343,067, slightly more than our original estimate. This work should be completed by Christmas 2020.

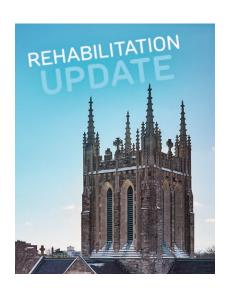
As for the balance of the money required for the complete restoration, a detailed grant proposal was submitted to the Comité des orgues of the QRHC, requesting support to fund the Swell division (\$119,354), the Choir and Solo divisions (\$108,155), and the Great and Pedal divisions (\$180,205) for a total of \$407,714. Unfortunately, we received notice recently that our application had not been approved in this current grant cycle; however, we were encouraged to resubmit our proposal for consideration in 2021, which we will do. In addition, the wardens intend to identify and approach other possible sources of funding to complete the organ restoration.

Summary

We are pleased to report that we have achieved our revenue projection and, on the project front, our costs for the work completed to date are lower than the original estimates. After the planned work is completed, we should have a surplus in our capital reserves which hopefully will not require another capital campaign for some considerable period of time. Once we are able to schedule and get estimates for the remaining work, we will report back to you with a more complete financial analysis.

Thank you for your outstanding generosity!

Campaign Coordinating Committee September 2020



For more information on the Capital Campaign, please visit our website: ascensionofourlord.ca/campaign

Or Contact

Fr. Lawrence MacEachen, Pastor: 514-932-3131, ext. 227 pastor@ascensionofourlord.ca

Donat Taddeo, Warden: 514-927-9964 donat.taddeo@gmail.com

Ascension of Our Lord Parish 375 Kitchener Avenue Westmount, Quebec H3Z 2G1 514-932-3131