REBUILDING OUR CHURCH
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Holy Rosary Cathedral Renewal Phase 3: Infrastructure and Lower Level

For over 110 years, Holy Rosary Cathedral has been a cornerstone of faith in Regina—a place of worship, celebration and community. As the mother church of the Archdiocese of Regina, it has welcomed generations of parishioners and visitors for Mass, sacraments, gatherings, concerts, and moments of both joy and sorrow.

Today, our beloved cathedral's critical infrastructure is reaching the end of its life and requires essential upgrades to continue as a vibrant place of worship and community, today and for future generations. **Pipes beneath the basement slab are failing, and the heating, electrical, and ventilation systems above the lower level's ceiling urgently need replacement.**

Our Vision:

Infrastructure renewal will involve extensive disruption to replace failing pipes and other systems. This will create the opportunity to renew the hall elements as the lower level is reconstructed:

- Bringing the **kitchen** up to building code, with fully functioning preparation, cooking, dishwashing and food storage facilities for gatherings and events;
- Renovating the **washrooms** to ensure wheelchair accessibility and building code compliance;
- Improving **energy efficiency** and simplifying operations to **reduce costs**; and
- **Recreating the hall** as a welcoming place for gatherings and events for decades to come.

Imagine this:

Picture a Holy Rosary Cathedral that's not only preserved, but revitalized. A place where all are welcomed, with accessible washrooms and a redeveloped kitchen for gatherings and events. Visualize a hall designed for celebration and connection, serving our community for generations to come.

With your support, we can turn this vision into reality.

Infrastructure: Renewing Our Building's Core Systems

In Phase 3, we are committed to renewing the core infrastructure that has sustained Holy Rosary Cathedral for over a century. Explore the key areas below where your support can make a lasting impact.

-Heating:

Holy Rosary has 4 boilers operating as an integrated unit. One of these failed in late 2024. Fortunately, some salvaged parts had been kept and could be installed to keep it functioning for now. The heating distribution lines and convectors on the main level are also at the end of their service life and are beginning to cause leaks and floods. Renewal work will install higher efficiency boilers and replace the heating lines and convectors to the sanctuary.

-Electrical:

The main electrical service is obsolete and at the end of its service life, and most of its electrical panels are full or have very little capacity. Renewal will include replacing the main electrical service, panels and distribution from the panels.

-Sewer and Stormwater Pipes under the Floor:

The cast iron sewer pipes are in poor condition, and the stormwater system has failed, resulting in flooding in the lower level during large rain events. Renewal work will replace all sewer and plumbing below the basement slab, and will decommission the under-slab stormwater system by diverting all rainwater out of the building. Site drainage is also an issue, and a stormwater catch basin is needed on the east side of the church that ties into the city main.

-Front Stair:

The front stair is in disrepair. Its concrete surface is delaminating and there is water infiltration, causing degradation of the concrete below and damage to the lower level foyer and fire exit. The uneven stair surfaces are a becoming a safety concern. Renewal work will repair the stair, address the water infiltration and renew the walking surface.

Our Lower Hall and Facilities: Renewal for the Community

Renewing these areas for gathering, celebrating and hosting archdiocesan, parish and community events will help keep our community connected and strong.

-Kitchen:

The range hood and make up air systems don't meet building code, the dishwasher is substandard, and the existing plumbing is at the end of its service life. Renewal work will reconfigure the kitchen to make space for a redeveloped women's washroom, and new sewer and plumbing lines under the floor. The kitchen will then be restored, with fully functioning preparation, cooking, dishwashing and food storage facilities.

-Hall Ventilation:

The ventilation fans serving the hall are past the end of their service life and need to be replaced.

-Emergency Lighting and Exit Signage:

Upgrades are needed to ensure a safe exit from the building in case of fire or power outage.

-Washrooms:

The lower level washrooms are insufficient for gatherings, have deteriorating plumbing under the slab, and are not wheelchair accessible. Renewal work will replace the women's washroom and renovate the men's, so that both meet building code requirements.

-Windows:

The original windows provided ample natural light for the hall. They were later replaced with poorly-performing aluminum frame windows and partially covered up by a suspended ceiling. Renewal work would restore the original window openings, and install energy efficient windows.

-Floors:

The historic terrazzo floors in the hall are disintegrating in some areas and need repair.

-Hall Lighting and Electrical:

Energy-efficient LED lighting and functional electrical plug-ins will be placed throughout the hall.

Support Cathedral Renewal

Are you a parishioner or friend of Holy Rosary Cathedral? We need your help to preserve the vitality of our beloved cathedral, and we invite you to contribute to this essential work.

Your donation, whether a one-time gift, a recurring contribution, or a 5-year pledge, will directly support the upgrades needed to the infrastructure and lower level of the church, allowing Holy Rosary Cathedral to continue serving as a place of worship, community, and connection into the next century.

Together, we can make this renewal a reality. Every contribution, no matter the size, plays a vital role in preserving this cornerstone of our community.

To make a donation, pledge, or inquire about giving options, please contact one of the following:

Holy Rosary Parish Office: 306-565-0909 holyrosary@myaccess.ca

Fr. Dan Rafael: 306-533-5261 divineram@sasktel.net

Samy McCarthy: 306-584-0613 Samira.McCarthy@uregina.ca

Background Questions and Answers

Why now?

The cathedral's aging systems are beginning to fail (see boiler note above). Renewal can happen more effectively by using a master plan for how all the moving parts will fit together, rather than by simply reacting to emergencies as they occur.

What is the timeline for Phase 3?

Phase 3 is currently in design development, and construction will happen as funds become available.

What is Phase 3 estimated to cost in 2025 dollars? $4M

What if not enough funds are received to complete phase 3?

Construction work will proceed in phases as sufficient funds are received.

This is Phase 3; what are the other phases?

Phase 1: Was completed in 2024, slightly under its $2.6M budget. The new elevator, accessible washrooms on each of the main floor and lower level of the foyer, and the improved elevator entrance area, welcome everyone to Masses, liturgies, and activities at the cathedral. Also, now that the south stair has been replaced, it no longer threatens the integrity of the building.

Phase 2: Will focus on replacing the spires, and renewing other elements such as belfries, masonry on the north side of the building, and rose windows.

Phase 4: Will address deficiencies in the cathedral's building envelope, including the foundation and masonry; windows; attic insulation and ventilation; and shingles, drip edges, gutters and downspouts.

Further questions? Contact John at jdipple@sasktel.net for more information.