



HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

Only you can answer that.

We ask that you prayerfully consider how you have been blessed and respond accordingly.

Church stewardship best practices on giving (tithing) suggest:

- Create and maintain a household budget
- Plan your giving annually
- Tithing literally means to give 10% of your income. Suggested amounts are half to the local parish and half to other church needs and charities that serve the greater community.
- Tithing is a goal that can be set and reached over time. Individuals may face varying financial challenges and constraints that impact their ability to tithe at the 10% level.

CSA & STM REBATE PROJECT PRAYER

O God,
You are the source of all that I have
and you trust me to use
your blessings for the glory of
Your Name and the well-being
of my neighbor.

Extend toward me your hand
of mercy and help me to be
your faithful steward during
the Catholic Services Appeal,
so that my sacrificial gift may
give You honor and serve
the needs of Your Church.

Through Christ our Lord

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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**ST. THOMAS
MORE CHURCH
CSA REBATE
PROJECT
2024 & 2025**

HISTORY

In the mid-1940s, Fr. Leo Hildebrant and Fr. Robert Weis, both from St. Mary's in Griffith, recognized the need to establish a new Catholic parish in the Munster area. With determination and faith, they secured a three-acre plot of land and a loan from the Diocese of Fort Wayne. Thus, the first St. Thomas More Church was built and opened its doors in February of 1946. The second church and school were opened in 1949 and the third and current church building was opened in 1969. Over the years, our parish has grown and flourished, becoming a beacon of faith and community in our area.

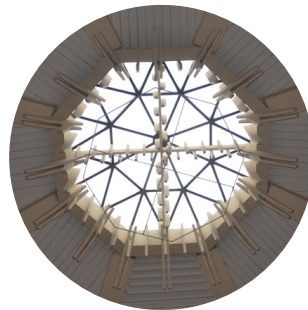
Our church building has been a cornerstone of our parish life, sheltering us during daily and weekend Masses, special liturgies, sacraments, and events. However, as with any structure, time and wear have taken their toll. It has become evident that our roofing systems and skylights are in dire need of replacement. The frequent leaks have also damaged parts of our wooden ceiling. Additionally, the current lighting and sound system does not provide equal illumination and sound distribution throughout the church.

PROJECT

After careful consideration, we have outlined the scope of the project to address these issues:

- Removal of existing clay tiles for salvage
- Removal & replacement of roofing membrane, insulation, and deteriorated materials
- Installation of custom skylights
- Reinstallation of salvaged clay tiles at sloped roof
- Restoration of damaged ceiling sections
- Installation of new wiring for lighting and the sound system
- Installation of new lighting that will diffuse the light in the pews for improved visibility and ambiance creating a welcoming and comfortable atmosphere.
- Installation of a new sound system capable of delivering clear and consistent audio that distributes sound evenly and enhances the worship experience for all

Initial estimates suggest that this project will exceed \$1,400,000. While we have some savings, we are looking to make this our CSA Rebate Project over the next two years. Any CSA donations received over our goal of \$129,414 are returned to STM for a Rebate Project.



WE APPEAL

to you, our parishioners, to prayerfully consider contributing, as you have been blessed, to ensure the future of our church building. Since the onset of COVID, our CSA collections have fallen short of our combined goals, and we hope for a generous response from you to avoid the need for a separate capital campaign.

This endeavor will not only preserve our church building but will also ensure that it remains a sacred space for future generations to worship and grow in their faith. Let us come together as a parish community to Live the Eucharist and support this vital project.

