

A Letter from Father

FOR THE GLORY of THE RISEN LORD

Since our beginning days at Mesa Gateway, we have been a parish community, a family searching for a place to properly worship our Lord. How wonderful it will be to have a campus to serve and accomplish this goal!

Roger and Rosanna Molieri,
Campaign General Chairs

Fifteen years ago, a few hundred families joined together to form Saint Mary Magdalene at the Mesa Gateway. As the parish moved between multiple temporary worship spaces, the Saint Mary Magdalene family continued to grow and experience God's blessings. Now, nearly 5,000 families call our parish home. What a blessing!

In 2011, just as He led the Israelites out of Egypt and into the Promised Land, God guided Saint Mary Magdalene to its current location, with the Rev. Greg Menegay celebrating the first Mass in the current worship space. Although parishioners enjoyed this new faith home, the shortcomings were obvious. Lacking additional space, the worship hall doubled as classrooms and meeting spaces for religious education, ministry activities and parish events.

God's blessings do bring challenges. That lack of space continues to be an issue as groups and ministries frequently compete for an area to grow in faith. There are not

enough hours in a day, nor enough space in the current facilities to accommodate all of the wonderful work being carried out in God's name at Saint Mary Magdalene. With these challenges come greater opportunities to grow in God's love, as we strive to be ever closer to His glory.

Despite that struggle our community continues to grow and develop in God's love. Hundreds of children attend religious education and youth group each week. We now offer dozens of ministries, carrying out God's work in a multitude of ways.

Now, our parish family faces an exciting opportunity, provided by God's grace. A new parish hall offers our parish the ability to expand existing ministries while undertaking still more ministries to better serve our parish family and community. This space will allow our parish to become closer as a family through fellowship in our social hall. Finally, our church will now be dedicated solely to worshipping God.

I hope you will join me in prayerfully considering your involvement in our efforts and praying for our success as we, the Saint Mary Magdalene parish family, continue to serve the Glory of the Risen Lord.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Will Schmid, Pastor



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

for a full listing of frequently asked questions, please click on the campaign tab on the parish website.

Why did we choose these plans, rather than constructing a new church building?

The original plan, developed in 2006, was to build a new church, capable of seating 1,800, on the south side of the property facing Williams Field Road. The estimated cost of a new church that size is at least \$10 million. Additionally, this same plan called for the renovation of the facility currently serving as our church to include the official parish hall and a small basketball court/cafeteria for the future school. Our architects estimated the cost of these renovations to be \$1 million- \$2 million.

That means, following the original plan, the total costs would be a minimum of \$11 million - \$12 million. To complete this project, the parish would need to take on an additional significant debt, further increasing the total project cost significantly.

Instead, the updated project plan agreed upon by leadership costs \$6 million- \$8 million and allows for a larger parish hall than the original plan. Also, this plan can be completed without incurring any additional debt, which means a significant savings in dollars for Saint Mary Magdalene. Saint Mary Magdalene has already paid over \$1 million in interest alone on the loan taken out to build the existing church. Parish leadership believes this new plan is more feasible and fiscally responsible.

When will construction begin?

Ideally, as soon as possible. As time passes, construction costs continue to rise. Saint Mary Magdalene leadership is currently working with the Diocese of Phoenix Buildings and Properties Office and the City of Gilbert to approve plans and receive the necessary permits. Ultimately, Saint Mary Magdalene is choosing not to take out loans for this project. Construction cannot begin until funds are in place to pay for it.

What happens to my offertory giving during a capital campaign?

Saint Mary Magdalene families are extremely generous with their regular tithing. Offertory giving is essential for the parish to continue to provide the many services it currently provides. Offertory also pays regular parish bills, like air conditioning, electricity, and maintenance. Capital campaign giving is above and beyond tithing or what's received in the offertory. Thus we hope each parish family will prayerfully consider a stretch, sacrificial gift. If you are currently contributing to the Building Fund, we ask if you might consider giving to the campaign instead.

What is our obligation to the campaign run by the Diocese of Phoenix?

The Diocese of Phoenix agreed to allow Saint Mary Magdalene to first focus on the new parish hall and remodeling the church. In three years, after all pledges for Saint Mary Magdalene's current campaign have been collected, we must then satisfy our obligation to the Diocese of Phoenix's Together, Let Us Go Forth campaign. Our goal for the campaign at the Diocese of Phoenix will be determined at that time. As a part of the diocese's campaign, Saint Mary Magdalene will receive a portion of the raised for the diocese. These funds will be used to complete any outstanding church remodeling projects.

MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Mary Magdalene is a Roman Catholic Parish that witnesses the love of Jesus Christ through evangelization, catechesis and celebration of the sacraments.

CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

Rev. Will Schmid, Pastor

Campaign Chairs

Roger and Rosanna Molieri

Honorary Chairs

Scott and Nicole Fleckenstein

Campaign Cabinet

Lita Arroyo

Mark and Kim Celentano

Kathy Dyer

Andy and Lisa Marsee

Juan and Tonya Paredes

Eric and Beth Scheer

David and Jill Spieldenner

Walt Stenborg

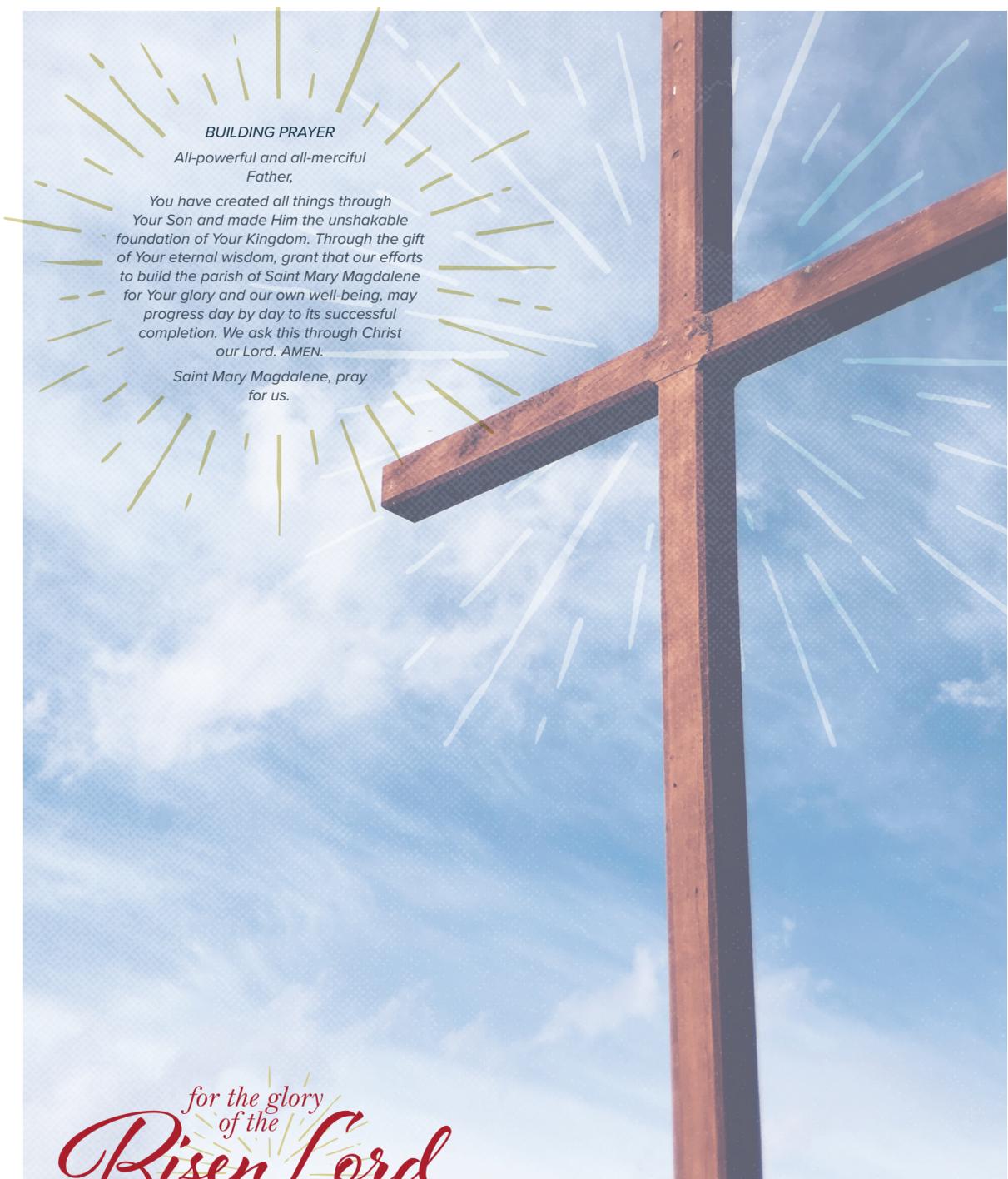
Development Council

Christian Warneke

The Steier Group

SAINT MARY MAGDALENE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

2854 E. Williams Field Rd. • Gilbert, AZ 85295 • 480.279.6737 • www.smarymag.org



BUILDING PRAYER

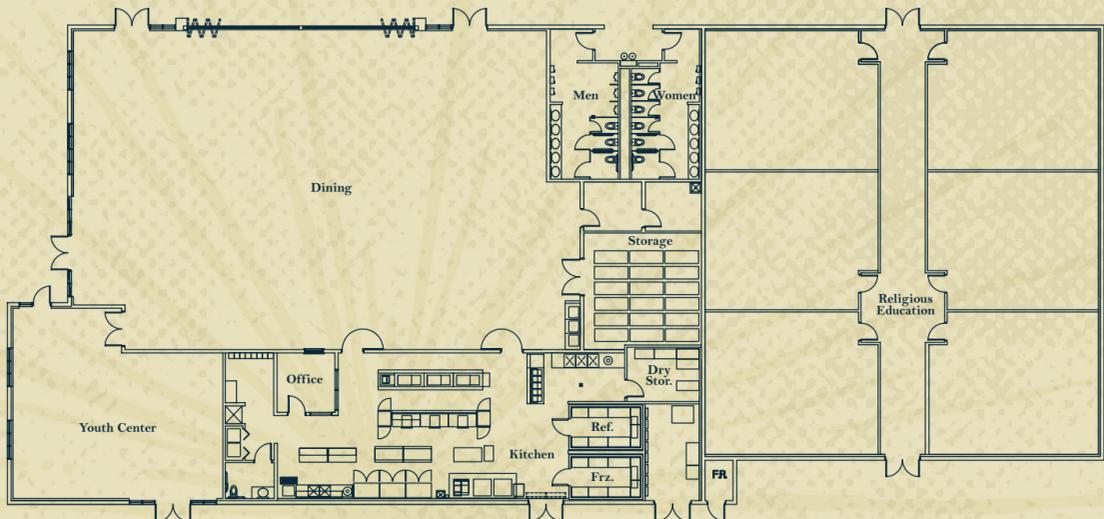
All-powerful and all-merciful Father,

You have created all things through Your Son and made Him the unshakable foundation of Your Kingdom. Through the gift of Your eternal wisdom, grant that our efforts to build the parish of Saint Mary Magdalene for Your glory and our own well-being, may progress day by day to its successful completion. We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Saint Mary Magdalene, pray for us.

for the glory of the
Risen Lord
a campaign for Saint Mary Magdalene

CASE STATEMENT



A Glorious Building

to Serve the Glory of the Risen Lord

\$3.5 MILLION

Currently, our children in grades K-6 are attending classes in improvised classrooms where there is not enough room for the tables and chairs needed for every child in the class. In some rooms, the furniture may either be too large or small for the children in that grade.

Each week, more than 900 children flock to Saint Mary Magdalene to grow in their faith through religious education. Dozens of volunteers serve these children as religious education (RE) teachers. Thanks to a glaring lack of space, classes are held in any place available. This practice – holding classes in corners of the narthex or scattered throughout the worship hall rather than in true classrooms – creates extra burdens for volunteer teachers and increases the likelihood of students being distracted from hearing God’s word.

Six dedicated religious classrooms promise to ease the burden on our RE teachers while allowing students to focus on what is most important: growing in faith.

DEDICATED YOUTH GROUP SPACE

No time in one’s life is more crucial for faith development than adolescence. Parents and teachers do their best to provide a strong foundation, but eventually young adults must make the faith their own. At Saint Mary Magdalene, we encourage our teens and young adults to embrace that responsibility by getting involved in youth ministries and programs.

Sunday nights the parish is alive with the sounds of 100 teens, members of the high school youth group, who gather to strengthen their relationship with God. Thursdays another 75 students attend EDGE, the middle school youth group, and enjoy a similar agenda. While it’s exciting to witness these children growing in faith they represent only a quarter of teens and young adults registered as parishioners. Our lack of space keeps us from welcoming more of our young adults to learn God’s message. Facing these limitations with our facilities, the only space large enough to accommodate both groups is the church hall. The problem is furthered on Sundays when youth group leadership cannot begin preparing their space until Mass finishes and teens gather.

A dedicated space for youth group in the new parish hall allows adult leadership to focus more on developing relationships with teens, rather than worrying about space preparation. Most importantly, a dedicated space offers teens and young adults a home away from home, a place where they are safe. A place where they can open up and allow Christ into their hearts.

In the proposed Parish Hall, there will be six classrooms large enough for every child to sit at a table with enough room to do projects along with their weekly or bi-weekly lesson. Also, the furniture will be the appropriate size for each grade level that meets in that room.

In addition, catechists will have storage space for supplies that they presently carry to and from home for every class.

“Please consider giving what you can so our children have the best possible experience learning about Jesus.”

Jan King
Catechist

“As a teen, having our own space would be a lot more personal. It would bring a lot more purpose and intention to youth group. For new people, what we do now seems a lot more off-putting than having a space.”

Jackson Beedle,
GS24 (High School Youth Group) Member

SOCIAL HALL *Featuring Dividers and Retractable Wall*
With dozens of ministries involving hundreds of parishioners, Saint Mary Magdalene is blessed to carry out God’s work in many ways. Between Women’s Christian Fellowship Group, Parents with Young Children, the Boy Scouts, Financial Peace University and other ministries, something is always happening at Saint Mary Magdalene.

However, this blessing brings challenges. With limited time and space, ministries must adjust to what time and space is available on campus or meet off-site. Meeting off-site, at inconvenient times, or in cramped make-shift quarters, limits parishioner involvement in these ministries.

The new parish hall will feature a 5,000-square-foot social hall to accommodate all of the good work occurring at Saint Mary Magdalene. It will feature dividers, allowing for the quick and convenient division into two or three smaller rooms to host multiple meetings or events simultaneously.

Furthermore, the social hall will feature a retractable external wall. During Christmas and Easter seasons, when multiple Masses are needed, this wall will be opened to allow parishioner overflow to congregate in a courtyard area. This means no longer will Saint Mary Magdalene spend \$10,000 each year to rent tents for Mass outdoors.



We have been a part of Saint Mary Magdalene for over 5 years now and have experienced its great community. We witnessed such a desire of our many young Catholic families to come together in community outside of Mass, however our biggest challenge was finding an accommodating space and atmosphere that was convenient and inviting.

Matthew and Christine Patterson

INDUSTRIAL KITCHEN

Few things bring together families better than a shared meal. With its existing setup, Saint Mary Magdalene cannot easily offer opportunities for such fellowship before or after Mass, or during the week. Adding an industrial kitchen allows the parish, or its many ministries, to host doughnut Sundays or pancake breakfasts. Not only could these events benefit Saint Mary Magdalene financially, they also offer parishioners the chance to break bread with other members of the community.

This kitchen will eventually serve the school cafeteria once a school is added to Saint Mary Magdalene.

“The Knights of Columbus would love to have a full kitchen to work with. We could have pancake breakfasts and fish fries. We’d love to potentially help with parish parties, like a St. Patrick’s Day or Valentine’s Day dance, events that would help foster parish togetherness. A full kitchen would open many possibilities.”

Tom White
Grand Knight, Saint Mary Magdalene Council 13779

NAMING OPPORTUNITIES:

The parish staff chose St. Andre Bessette to serve as spiritual staff member for the current year. St. Andre was known for his devotion to St. Joseph, saying “I am nothing. Only a tool in the hands of providence; a lowly instrument at the service of St. Joseph.” Like St. Andre, we all have saint who offer special guidance in our lives. Should your family or a ministry wish to honor a particular saint, the following naming opportunities exist in the new parish hall:

- Parish Hall - \$500,000**
- Kitchen - \$350,000**
- Social Hall - \$175,000**
- Youth Group Room - \$150,000**
- Classroom (x6) - \$75,000 (each)**
- Grand Entrance - \$50,000**
- Entrances (x8) - \$25,000 (each)**



METHODS OF GIVING

There are many ways to contribute and support the capital campaign. Pledges are commitments made in good faith, but are not legally binding. Pledges are encouraged to be made over a three-year period to make it easier to maximize your support. A commitment may be fulfilled through monthly, quarterly or annual installments.

CASH OR CREDIT CARD

Gifts made by cash, check or credit card are the most common and will allow Saint Mary Magdalene to address its immediate needs. Gifts made by credit card or automatic withdrawal will be processed through Faith Direct.

SECURITIES

Charitable gifts of stocks, bonds or mutual funds that have appreciated offer special tax advantages and can be a great way to provide a significant gift to Saint Mary Magdalene.

REAL ESTATE

Gifts of property entitle a donor to an income tax deduction equal to the full market value with no tax on any capital gains.

LIFE INSURANCE

You can donate an old policy by simply naming Saint Mary Magdalene as the owner and beneficiary. Or you can consider donating a new policy.

Note: This information is not intended as legal advice. You are advised to consult your own qualified professional adviser for specific recommendations.

PLANNED GIFT

Planned giving is the process of carefully selecting the best method and assets for making a charitable gift. Such a gift can enable you to take full advantage of the tax laws to accomplish your financial and charitable goals. A bequest contained in your will is the most common form of planned giving.

CORPORATE MATCHING GIFTS

A matching gift program provided through your employer or board membership may allow you to increase the value of your gift. Many companies match charitable gifts of employees, retirees or board members.

GIVING CONSIDERATIONS

Total Gift	Initial 10% Investment	Balance	Monthly	Quarterly	Semiannual	Annual
\$75,000	\$7,500	\$67,500	\$1,875	\$5,625.00	\$11,250	\$22,500
\$50,000	\$5,000	\$45,000	\$1,250	\$3,750.00	\$7,500	\$15,000
\$30,000	\$3,000	\$27,000	\$750	\$2,250.00	\$4,500	\$9,000
\$15,000	\$1,500	\$13,500	\$375	\$1,125.00	\$2,250	\$4,500
\$10,000	\$1,000	\$9,000	\$250	\$750.00	\$1,500	\$3,000
\$6,000	\$600	\$5,400	\$150	\$450.00	\$900	\$1,800
\$3,600	\$360	\$3,240	\$90	\$270.00	\$540	\$1,080
\$1,800	\$180	\$1,620	\$45	\$135.00	\$270	\$540