



**Dear Parishioners,**

Our Shrine Wall Project, which began in June 2024, has had a promising start. We have raised over \$29,725 so far. Thank you for your generosity!

The projected final cost is an astronomical \$350,000, but I am hopeful it will be less.

Currently, the Shrine Wall Committee—comprising David Lauzon, Eamonn Brennan, Bert Orquiola, Peter Quirke, Maria Sarmiento, and myself—is working on a detailed job description for contractors to bid on. Once this is complete, we will have a clearer idea of the total cost and will update you accordingly.

The high estimated cost is due to several factors:

- Considering insulated stucco as a replacement for the current non-insulated stucco, which may not be cost-effective due to a long payback period in heat savings.
- The need to dismount and remount the HVAC units from the Church walls for the stucco replacement.
- Repairing a leaking flat roof on the rectory.
- Replacing the rectory soffits (underside of roof eaves) and wall stucco.
- Replacing all the caulking on the Church windows, which have not been done in 15-20 years and now leak cold air.
- Enclosing the bell-tower to prevent water entry, which has caused leaks and mold growth.
- Restoring all the eaves troughs to complete the stucco job.

Future fundraising efforts are in the planning stage. Past fundraisers include:

- Last Saturday's Filipino Banquet, which raised nearly \$3,577—thanks to Helen and team.
- The T-Shirt fundraiser, which brought in \$6,600—thanks to Judy, Marcie, and team.
- The summer BBQ, which contributed \$2,678—thanks to the 10AM choir.
- A \$10,000 bequest from Carmen Donaldson's estate.

Additional funds are coming from your weekly donations. We are planning a large donation tree, dedicated to those who give significant amounts towards the Shrine Wall Project, to be temporarily mounted in the foyer with donor names. We also plan to use two wall thermometers to indicate our fundraising progress and motivate us to further efforts.

**How can you help reach the total financial goal?**

1. **Shrine Wall Envelope:** Use the Shrine Wall Envelope to pledge a monthly donation.
2. **Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG):** Sign up for PAG to make regular contributions.
3. **Online Donations:** Visit our parish website to donate online.
4. **Fundraising Efforts:** Support our various fundraising activities.

We will provide an update in the new year. We have a tentative start date for the work in the Spring 2026; hopefully we will have sufficient funds by then. The project will likely last through the spring and summer months.

I am very grateful to you, the parishioners of St. Therese, for your generous participation and financial donations. Thanks also to the Shrine Wall Project Committee for all their hard work and support.

**Peace,**

**Fr. Simon**