

# LEGACY FOR OUR MISSION:

*For Our Children and the Future*

## ST. PAUL PLANS UPGRADES TO ACCOMMODATE STRONG GROWTH

St. Paul Parish in Sellersburg is only about 60 years old—young compared to many in the archdiocese. Yet the parish and school are both struggling to accommodate the growth of this southern Indiana community. Support from the *Legacy for Our Mission* campaign will help solve the problem.

Sellersburg is located just nine miles north of downtown Louisville and is experiencing a housing boom that has caused steady growth in the parish. Parish households have more than doubled since 1996 from 250 to nearly 600 families today. Likewise, St. Paul School has experienced an increase in enrollment during this time.

The surge is of concern to St. Paul because of two trends. Church seating capacity—340—is insufficient. In addition, no significant improvements have been made to the church since its construction in 1972. It needs a new air conditioning system, carpeting, lighting and, at some point in the future, expanded seating for 100 additional members.

The school also needs updates. Built in 1949, it needs new windows as well as upgraded heating and air conditioning systems and improvements to the special education room. The building originally housed the school, church, rectory, convent and social room. A total of 321 students are enrolled in the K–6 school.

“Our membership and parish ministries both are continuing to grow. It is imperative that we maintain and expand our facilities to serve our current parish family as well as all those who may join our church



and school in the future,” said the pastor, Father Paul F. Richart. Renovation work on both structures is set to begin in June.

“The help of the *Legacy for Our Mission* is critical to our future to help us make capital improvements to St. Paul that are badly needed,” Father Richart said. Campaign co-chair Mike Waiz added, “We’ve been talking about the need for improvements to the church and school for quite a while, and now is the time—with the help of the *Legacy for Our Mission*—to make this a reality.”

Co-chair Chad Balmer said parishioners gave generously. In addition, nearly 100 members contributed their time to work on the campaign. When asked what St. Paul means to them and why they were willing to help, volunteers offered a variety of responses. Here is a sampling:

“To me, St. Paul is a one-stop shop for a stairway to heaven.”  
—Jay Jacobi

“I have met good people at St. Paul who will be friends for life. I am working on the committee because a good friend asked for my help.” —Jim Sellmer

“St. Paul is my spiritual anchor. I am involved because I was asked.” —Chuck Mensching

“St. Paul is one of my highways to heaven. I agreed to work on this campaign to help improve the future for the young.”  
—Sue Davis

*Legacy for Our Mission, the archdiocesan capital campaign, is guided by the principles of Christian stewardship and addresses future ministry needs of the archdiocese. By contributing to Legacy for Our Mission, you are helping your parish address its most urgent capital, operating and ministry needs as well as the shared ministries and home missions of the archdiocesan community.*

Please visit the new online home of the *Legacy for Our Mission* campaign at [www.archindy.org/legacy](http://www.archindy.org/legacy). It can also be accessed at [www.LegacyforOurMission.org](http://www.LegacyforOurMission.org).

### And a Little Child Shall Lead Them . . .

Children as well as their parents responded enthusiastically to the *Legacy for Our Mission* campaign at St. Paul. One example was the granddaughter of St. Paul School Principal Fran Matusky. On her own, nine-year-old Savannah Thieneman decided to forego the usual presents at her birthday party and instead asked family and friends to donate to the capital stewardship campaign. As a bonus, her father matched all the money that was raised, bringing the total contribution to nearly \$2,200.