

ATTN: ST. MARY PARISH (CHURCH AND SCHOOL) FAMILY

On behalf of Fr. Vrazel, Debbie Ollis, and the St. Mary Parish Council we are excited to announce the first project of St. Mary's Master Plan- St. Mary Parish Pavilion and Courts. This important project is made possible thanks to fundraising and leadership efforts from our ongoing parish fundraising events: St. Mary's Steak Out, St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Steve Thompson Memorial Golf Tournament, St. Mary's PTO Boosterthon, and The St. Mary Catholic School Annual Fund Drive. This project has also been added to the Generations of Faith Campaign. All these various organizations, along with the support of Fr. Vrazel and Mrs. Ollis, have come together to begin the process of making this part of the dream a reality.



What is the Pavilion and what will it be used for?

The new St Mary Parish Pavilion will be an open-air, multi-use covered facility located on Thompson Field. It will serve many functions for our parish to include our church and school. It will be set up with basketball and volleyball court(s) to be used for practices. The school can utilize this facility for PE, after school care, recess, and during this time of COVID19 an outdoor classroom.

In addition, we will now have a lighted outdoor covered facility that can be used for church and school events, wedding receptions, outdoor gatherings, etc.

Why is it needed?

We appreciate the use over the many years of McGill-Toolen's C.Y.O Hall and fields for our P.E. classes. However, this pavilion will help eliminate our dependence upon the C.Y.O. hall which has become much less available to us due it's increased use. Our children will no longer have to walk a block for their scheduled P.E. time.

It will relieve some of the pressure being currently placed upon our existing cafeteria (better known as the Gymateria). During 'normal' circumstances, the "Gymateria" serves numerous functions such as: morning assembly, snacks, lunch, P.E., sport's practices, plays, and various school & church gatherings.

**For more information, please contact one of our Building Committee Co-Chairs:
Joe Collins Joe@elminfo.com or Matt Boos mboos@boosnavarre.com / 251-422-1824**

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Right now, during COVID19 the “Gymateria” has been converted to classrooms for our 6th grade SMS students forcing all users to find alternate solutions.

Why Not Just build a gym?

This Pavilion is not designed nor is it intended to eliminate our long term need for a gym. The gym will remain a major item on the St. Mary Master Plan. However, at this point the Pavilion is much more cost effective and attainable than a gym. The Pavilion will help fill immediate needs while planning continues for a future gym.

What is the St. Mary Master Plan?

With the acquisition of 111 Lafayette Street, we now have the property necessary to create a master plan that addresses many of the parish needs while not requiring us to purchase any more property. Cummings Architecture Corp (Ben Cummings) just recently completed the Master Plan and Fr. Vrazel and the Parish Council have all signed off on it.

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How close are we on building the St. Mary Parish Pavilion and Courts?

Cummings Architecture Corp has prepared beautiful renderings of the proposed facility as well as assisted with obtaining approval from the City of Mobile Architectural Review Board. “For Construction” drawings and specifications are currently being drafted.

Thanks to the combined efforts of the groups listed above and their respective event sponsors and patrons, we are proud to announce that to date we have \$85,000 of the necessary \$500,000 to make this project a reality.

What’s Next?

Simple, we are asking every St. Mary Parish Member, School Family, Alumni, or anyone that has a special place in their heart for St. Mary’s to please attend our informational session. This session will allow us to show you what the St. Mary Parish Pavilion and Courts will look like, how it ties in to the Master Plan, and allow us to get your feedback and ideas.

With the many blessings that we have at St. Mary’s from a beautiful historic church, a student body that is continuing to grow, committed leadership, and a special spirit that can only be found in the wonderful people that make up the St. Mary’s family, the one thing we can all agree is missing are our facilities. The Pavilion will not solve all our needs, but we feel it the first step in the right direction.

Thank you for your Kind Consideration and Go Mustangs!

Joe Collins & Matt Boos

Co-Chairs St. Mary’s Building Committee

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