St. Peter School has served Capitol Hill families for 150 years, staying true to its mission:

“Founded on love of God and service to others, characterized by Catholic values and academic excellence, and dedicated to addressing each child’s unique talents and abilities.”

The school has evolved over the decades. At one time it educated more than 600 students in two large, open classrooms. The school has embraced diversity, desegregating ahead of Brown v. Board of Education.

Today, the school continues to serve a diverse 245 students in Pre-Kindergarten through eighth grades in 10 main classrooms. It has twice earned a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon for Academic Excellence (most recently in September 2019), and it embraces Catholic social teaching through service projects conducted in student families made up of students in all grades.

Our administration, faculty, and staff set an example for our students through their commitment, excellence, and love. They have a combined 125 years (an average of 6 years) of experience, and 80 percent hold or are pursuing advanced degrees.

All of this happens in a beautiful, historic building, which brings with it both advantages and challenges. It is solidly built, with large windows and high ceilings. At the same time, the entrance, offices, and lack of accessibility do not reflect our welcoming nature; the absence of a large, flexible gathering space limits the ability to bring students, parents, and faculty together in full community; and the electrical, HVAC, plumbing, and IT systems are aging and do not meet modern expectations of efficiency, reliability, and environmental stewardship.

While some Catholic schools in the District have struggled and shuttered – St. Peter School is a growing, vibrant community that has been responsible stewards of this jewel on Capitol Hill. Now, as we enter the next 150 years, we are seeking your support to expand and modernize our facility. We have developed a master plan that includes adding to the existing L-shaped footprint to allow us to continue meeting the academic, spiritual and physical needs of our students. The plan includes:

- Building a new, accessible, welcoming entrance at street level
- Adding a large multi-purpose space capable of accommodating the entire school community at one time, which will allow for:
  - Assemblies, performances, games, and fairs to be hosted at the school;
  - Indoor recreation (gym and recess on inclement weather days);
  - Lunch outside of the classrooms;
- Complying with ADA requirements for accessibility through the addition of an elevator
- Establishing additional resource rooms for small group instruction and teacher work spaces
- Replacing electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and IT systems
- Retaining outdoor play space on the roof of the addition

Since the students’ education is paramount and our goal is to not be disruptive to our mission, we are pleased that construction can occur while students remain in their classrooms with final work finished during a summer break.

Further, as designed, the addition is able to be used to serve the broader Catholic community on Capitol Hill without disrupting classrooms. This will allow us to host events with our supporting parishes and other Catholic organizations in the ADW, as well as CYO events, speakers, and community gatherings.

This historic endeavor will cost approximately $7-$9 million. Thanks to prudent financial management and the generosity of St. Peter’s Parish, we already have more than $3 million in pledges and cash on hand. We need your help to make the Cornerstone Project a reality, to ensure that St. Peter School remains a beacon of Catholic education on Capitol Hill for another 150 years.
Ways To Make A Gift

**Cash Gifts:** This is the most common method of making a pledge. Your gift is tax deductible.

**Gifts of Securities:** A gift of appreciated securities is one way to make a significant contribution at a reduced cost to you. Federal tax laws allow a charitable deduction for the full market value of securities on the date of your gift.

**Bequests:** A provision in your will to leave a gift to this program. Charitable bequests are fully deductible from your estate and can reduce estate taxes on the balance of your estate. Your bequests may be specified as a gift of cash or securities, real estate, or other property. Alternatively, it may take the form of a percentage of your total estate. You may also consider a residuary bequest, which is a gift of all or a portion of your estate after other conditions are met. Real property can also be given as an outright gift or by bequest.

**Matching Gifts:** Please inquire as to your company’s ability and willingness to encourage and match your personal philanthropy. This could dramatically increase the size of the gift.

**Gift Annuity Agreements:** Allow you to make a gift to the school and receive fixed annual payments for life. You are allowed a tax deduction for a portion of the amount transferred and for a period of years only part of the payments will be taxed as income. The size of payments is based on the age(s) of the recipient(s) at the time of the gift.

**Charitable Remainder Annuity Trusts and Unitrusts:** Enable you to make a significant gift to the school during your lifetime and continue to receive income for yourself and/or other beneficiaries. After the life interests have passed, the remaining principal will pass to St. Peter School. In addition to income tax deductions in the year the trust is instituted (with five-year carry-over privileges), donors may avoid capital gains and significantly reduce estate and gift taxes.

**Charitable Lead Trusts:** St. Peter School receives interest income for a period of time from an amount you retain at the end of the trust term.

**Life Insurance:** Gifts of life insurance could include Absolute Assignment (transferring ownership of a policy that has outlived its original purpose) and Co-Beneficiary (naming St. Peter School as co-beneficiary of part of the proceeds of a new or existing policy).
### The CORNERSTONE CAMPAIGN

**Gift Plans**

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