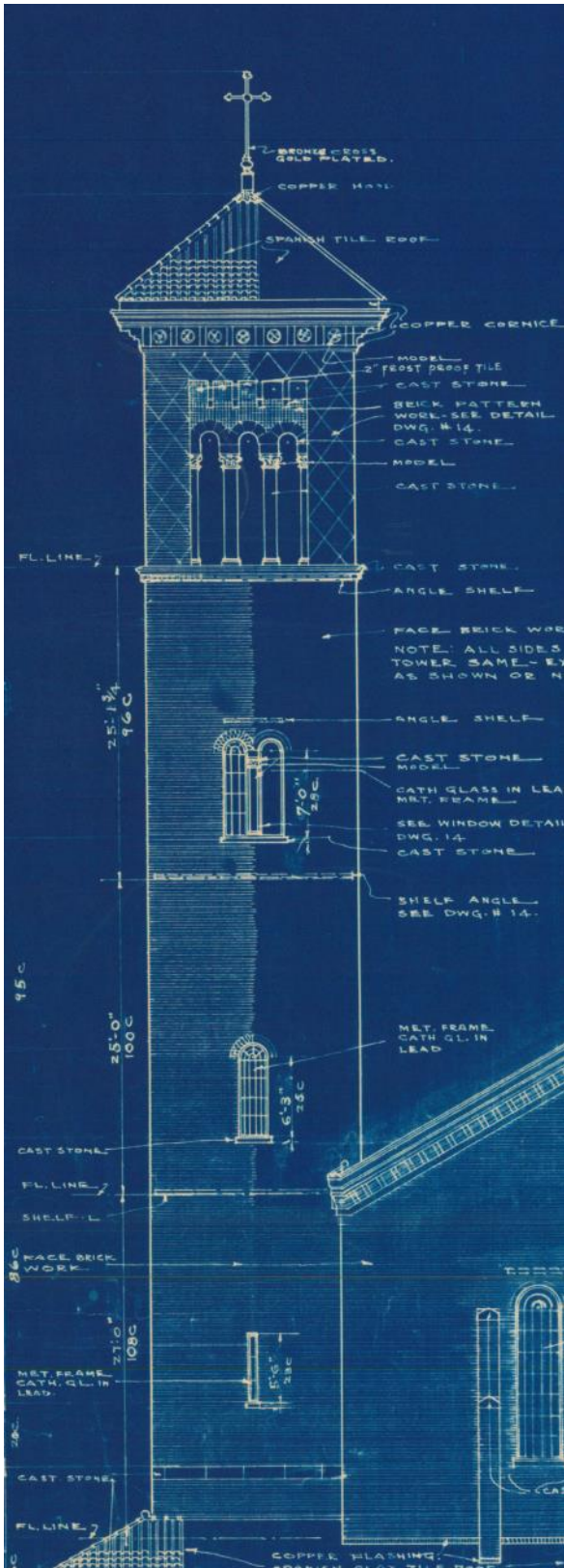


HOLY ROSARY BELL TOWER PROJECT

The bell tower is an iconic part of our parish church. Rising 125 feet into the air, like the Church itself it is a sign and symbol of the presence of God in the midst of our community here in West Seattle. It can be seen rising up above the landscape—from an overhead flight, Interstate 5, and perhaps even from your own neighborhood. Each and every day, the chimes ring out, and can be heard near and far. But our bell tower is in need of renovation.



Phase 1: The Water Leak—\$15,000

For the last two years the bell tower has been leaking. This is the simplest project of the three, and plans are in process to complete it in the summer of 2016. Left unaddressed, the water will cause structural problems—destabilizing masonry and/or causing the metal to rust.

Phase 2: Unreinforced Masonry—\$150,000

The top 1/5th of the tower is unreinforced masonry—the walls are nothing other than the bricks and the mortar. In an earthquake, because there are no metal rods, diagonal bracing, etc., the walls are much more likely to bow and collapse. The City of Seattle is currently finalizing policies which will mandate that all such structures undergo structural upgrades. This is a real safety concern—to the building itself, any other buildings it might fall on, as well as the people in and around them.

Phase 3: Tuck-pointing—\$150,000

The mortar between the bricks slowly erodes over time due to the rain, the wind and the sun. Sometimes it even cracks and bits fall out. Water intrusion inside the bricks themselves leads to structural problems. The mortar on the south and west faces of the bell tower needs to be repointed and the bricks resealed to help make the work last longer. Completing Phases 2 and 3 at the same time would reduce costs of equipment rental. Similarly, if the two faces are done at the same time, the cost would come down some as well.

Total Necessary Structural Upgrades: \$315,000

Total Facilities Reserve Savings: \$206,640

ACA Rebate Goal: \$110,000 +

(It is not wise to use all of our Facilities Reserve savings.)

Last Year's Rebate: \$22,857

Phase 4: Lighting—\$90,000-\$205,000

Imagine if our Bell Tower not only rang out during the day, but also shone in the darkness of the night, a true beacon of light. There are some different options available. We could light the inside so that it shines out. We could also light the sides, and for the biggest effect, add detail lighting for the ledges, arches and columns. This is not a safety project, as are the first three phases, but since some of the necessary equipment would already be on site, it is an opportune time should the funds be donated. Our parish church would become a visible beacon in the night.