

THE TWIN SPIRES

The Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Savannah, GA

February 2017

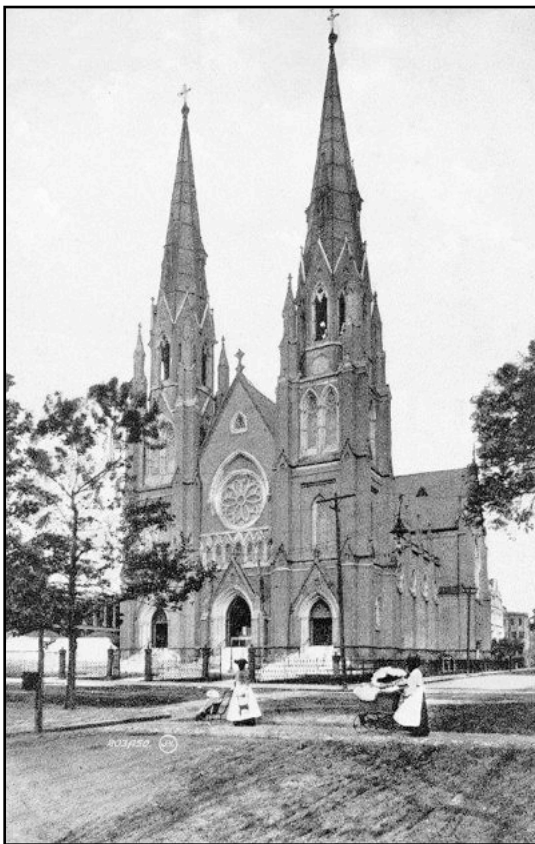
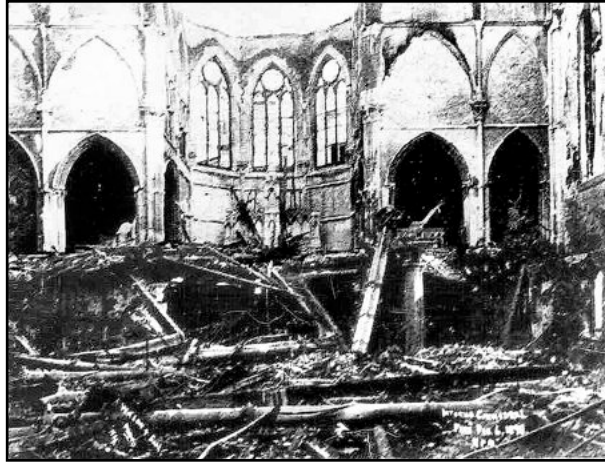
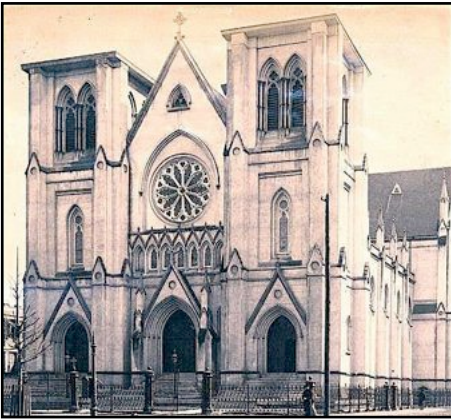
**SPECIAL
EDITION**
Preserving Our Heritage





Our Heritage

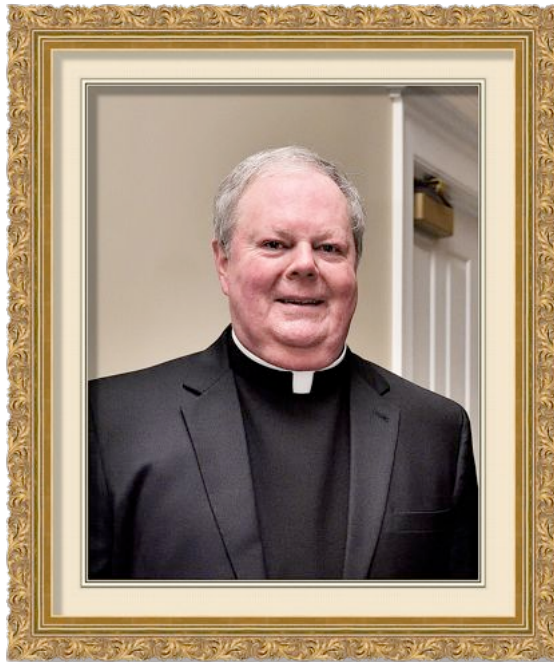
Our beautiful French Gothic Cathedral was originally dedicated in 1876 and rebuilt in two years by the Catholics of Savannah after the devastating fire on February 6, 1898 which destroyed all of the Cathedral but the outside walls and the two spires.



Photos in this issue courtesy of Paul Camp, Msgr. William O'Neill and the Georgia Historical Society

CATHEDRAL HERITAGE ENDOWMENT FUND APPEAL WAS A BIG SUCCESS

A Message from Cathedral Rector, Father Gerry Schreck
Photo by Paul H. Camp



The Cathedral Preservation Society has been established to solicit and encourage contributions to the Cathedral Heritage Endowment Fund. In October and November of 2016 an appeal was made for donations and membership.

I am very happy to report that our appeal for the Cathedral Heritage Endowment Fund was very, very successful. Through this appeal, which was made to Cathedral parishioners and past donors to the Cathedral from throughout the Diocese of Savannah and beyond, a total of \$173,000 was raised for the endowment, the largest amount we have ever raised. As of June 30, 2016, the Endowment Fund was valued at \$1,819,537. With this latest contribution, the endowment will essentially be valued at \$2,000,000.

As you know, only a portion of the interest generated by the fund is disbursed each year. That money is used for structural repairs and maintenance on the Cathedral. For the last three years, the annual disbursement from the fund has been used to reduce our indebtedness on the repair of the Cathedral steeples. Our ultimate goal is to build the endowment to at least \$5,000,000, so that we will have sufficient revenue each year to meet the maintenance needs of the Cathedral.

My sincere thanks for the success of the appeal go to Dr. and Mrs. Luke Curtsinger who were the Chairpersons of the annual appeal. I also want to thank our hard working committee members: Dr. Frank P. Rossiter, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Rob Massey, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sterritt, Mrs. Gretchen Reese, Mr. Charlie Ganem, Mrs. Catherine Kostilnik, Mrs. Loretto Lominack and Ms. Melanie Brooks. They did a terrific job, again!

I would also like to thank all of our generous donors and

benefactors, who were able to make a donation to this annual appeal. I appreciate the sacrifices that you continue to make for the good of our Cathedral. It really is a treasure, and something of which we should be rightly proud. Every day when visitors come through our Cathedral they marvel at its beauty, and often stop to tell me how beautiful it is and how fortunate we are to have it.

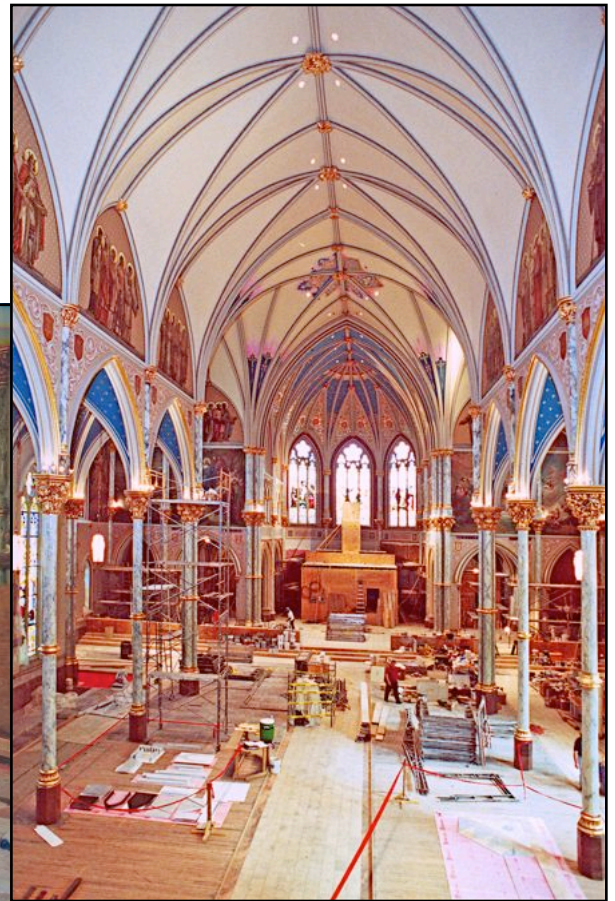
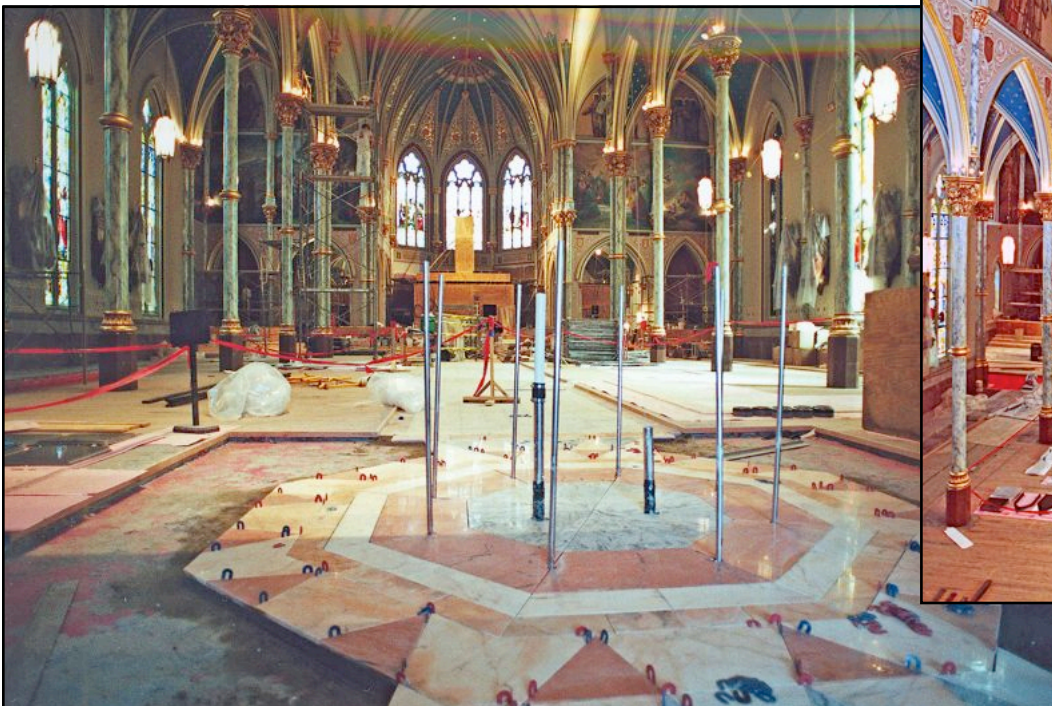
As I look at our Cathedral, I often ask myself, "How did they do it? How did those faithful Catholics of Savannah make the sacrifices to find the funding to build and rebuild such a magnificent Church?" Obviously, they did it by faith and by a passion to make a statement about the Catholic faith in the city of Savannah. Our Cathedral is in itself a great tool of evangelization. It is amazing to see the awe and wonder in the eyes of visitors who enter the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist. Monsignor T. James McNamara, our former Rector, was often quoted as saying that every significant event in his life (Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, and Ordination to the Priesthood) happened in the Cathedral, and that the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist is "the barometer of Catholic prestige in Savannah."

As fortunate as you and I have been to be able to worship in such a grand Church, we must do what we can to hand on this Cathedral to future generations of Catholics and visitors to Savannah. If you haven't already done so, please consider becoming part of the Cathedral Heritage Preservation Society and make a donation to the Cathedral Heritage Endowment Fund. I thank you for the sacrifices that you are making and for your generosity to the Cathedral.



Preserving Our Heritage

After 100 years, a major restoration took place in 1998-2000. Exterior structural repairs were made including a new slate roof. The church was closed for over a year to allow all the interior work to proceed.



Archbishop Thomas J. McDonough Circle

Gifts of \$10,000 or more

The Abbott/Harty Family
Dr. Luke Curtsinger / Coastal Empire Plastic Surgery

Bishop J. Kevin Boland Circle

Gifts of \$5,000 up to \$9,999

Mr. Frederick S. Bergen	Paul and Fran Hinchey / St. Joseph's
Bishop J. Kevin Boland	Candler
Cathedral of St. John the Baptist	John S. James Company
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Demere, Jr.	Mrs. Fred Gretsck
The Dunn Foundation, Inc.	The Scott and Louise Lauretti Fund
Harry and Kimi Haslam	

Monsignor T. James McNamara Circle

Gifts of \$1,000 up to \$4,999

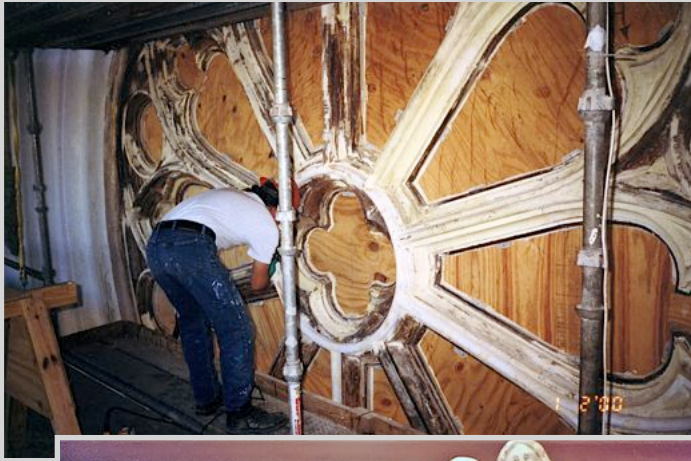
Anonymous Donor	Steve and Sally Hall	Jerry and Mary Rooney
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph P Brennan	Roger and Rita Haneline	Dr. and Mrs. Frank P. Rossiter, Jr.
Cathedral Council of Catholic Women	Chat and Carol Howard	Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Ruby
Rhonda Pritchett Clippinger	Mr. and Mrs. David H. Johnson	Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Sandy
Mr. John M. Coleman/Bonitz of	David and Susan Johnson	The Joseph C. Schreck Family
Georgia, Inc.	William and Emily Kehoe / Johnstone	Brenden Sheehan / Daniel J. Sheehan,
Dr. and Mrs. Anthony Costrini	Supply	Co.
Joe and Jan Connors	Mr. and Mrs. Ted Kliesner	Georgia Spellman
Robert and Judy Crais	Robert M. Laird, Jr. and Martha Laird	Dr. and Mrs. John Spellman
Dr. William J. Degenhart	Gary G. Lautenhiser	Mike and Linda Stephens
Mike and Julie Estvander	Carol and Bob Letcher	Michael W. Stephens
Dr. Maria Finn	Mr. Robert Logan/ Wells Fargo Advisors	St. Anne's Catholic Church
Johnnie Ganem, Inc.	Reverend Ronnie Madden	St. Williams Catholic Church
Evelyn A. Ganem	Amy & Rob Massey	Ann Tatum/ Students See Savannah
Louise M. Ganem	Steve and Kebby McElhanon	Dr. Chris Whelan/ Whelan Chiropractic
Mark Girardeau	Stuart and Cathie Meisenzahl	Robert E. White
Maurice and Mary Greene	John S. and Gretchen K. Reese	Dr. and Mrs. Robert Vaught
Roanne S. and Henry D. Hall, Jr	Dr. and Mrs. Terry L. Reynolds	Scott and Rhonda Voynich





Heritage Preserved

The stained glass windows were repaired and re-leaded, the Stations of the Cross were returned to their original multi-chromatic look and the murals were restored.



Monsignor William O. O'Neill Circle

Gifts of \$500 to \$999

Jane H. Abbott
 Patrick, Dustin, and Nicholas Aliffi
 Ancient Order of Hibernians Savannah
 Cliff and Karen Angers
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald G. Arpin
 Mr. & Mrs. Jason P. Ball
 Bruce and Mary Barragan
 Frank Barragan
 Dr. Monique Belli
 Erick and Hope Bernstein
 Gary Bocard
 Mr. and Mrs. Troy Bouy
 Catherine Bowman / The Bowman Law Firm
 Tom and Linda Broderick
 Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Broderick
 Melanie Brooks
 Mr. and Mrs. William A. Brooks
 Toby and Francie Browne
 Tommy Brunson
 John J. Chidsey
 Columbia Club
 Mrs. Kathryn Corley
 James and Jeanne Collins
 Bryan and Fran Connerat
 William and Angela Coonce
 Laura Jill Costello
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Davis
 Dr. and Mrs. Clark Deriso
 Dr. and Mrs. Edmund R. Donoghue
 Mike Duclos
 Gigi & Michael DiTomasso
 Timothy D Farley
 Christine Fletcher and Carlos F. Zobel

Michael and Jill Flynn
 Fox and Weeks Funeral Home
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ganem
 Mr. John P Ganem
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ganem
 Joe Gannam and Melanie Marks
 Thomas and Arlene Gilligan
 Dr. and Mrs. Jack Groover
 Dr. Alex and Mrs. Anna Guira
 Thomas and Kate Haase
 Mr. and Mrs. G. Cyrus Harden, III.
 Charles and Julia Hitchins
 Brian & Marylyn Howe
 Martin and Carrie Ann Hughes, IV
 Dr. and Mrs. John Jaugstetter
 Dr. Catherine and Mr. Ted Kostilnik
 Knights of Columbus Council 631
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul A. Kaluzne
 Robert Keber
 Mrs. William Kehoe, Jr.
 Nancy Krembs
 Robert M. Laird, Jr. and Martha Laird
 Gary and Judy Lautzenhiser
 Dr. and Mrs. Lucas Lewin
 Alizon McLaughlin
 Alan and DeAnne Mitchell
 Sister John Moravec
 Tom and Sharon Morgan
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Mizelle
 Douglas and Kathleen Olen
 Monsignor William O. O'Neill
 Tom and Kay Osborn
 Tom and Susan Palmer
 Peter and Barbara Paolucci

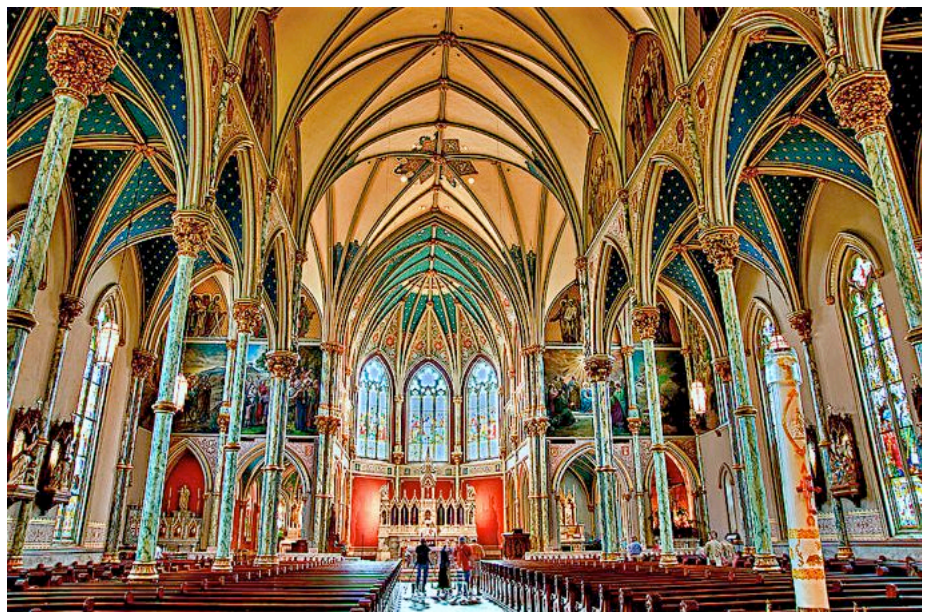
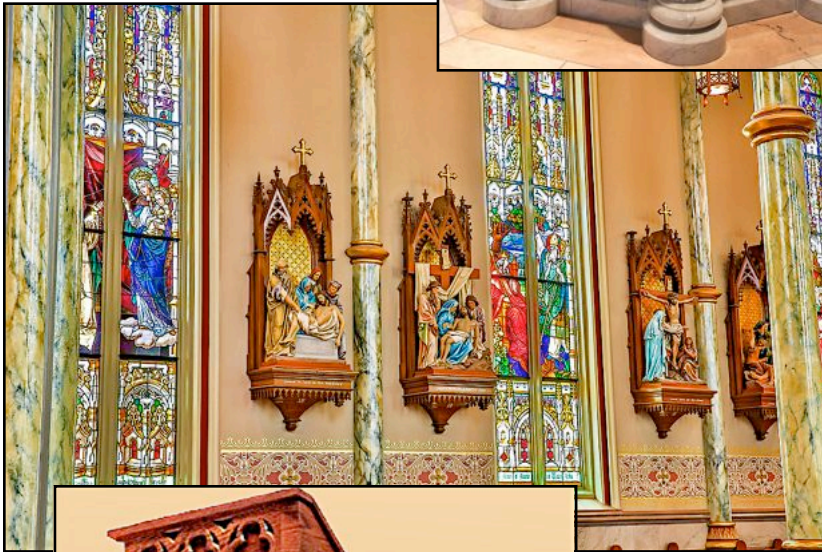
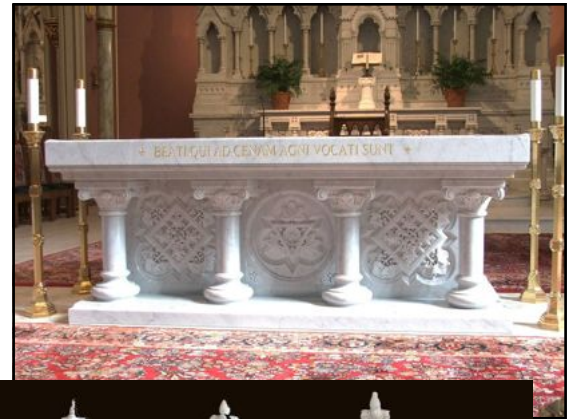
John and Kathy Pohl
 Michael and Janee Pzybyl
 Dr. & Mrs. Ed Richards
 John Reardon / Express Packaging
 William M Robinson
 Dr. and Mrs. Daniel W. Rose
 Michael and Rena Roush
 Joseph Rozman
 Wim Salien
 Sharon Saseen
 Barbara Sawdye
 Robert and Betty Schwarz
 Anne and Bill Shira
 Thomas J. Sheehan Insurance
 Mrs. Thomas J. Sheehan
 Mary Ann B. Smith
 William L. Smith
 Brian and Francine Stenz
 St. Mary Catholic Church
 St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee
 St. Peter the Apostle Parish
 Tim & Lisa Swinson
 Helen McKenzie Taggart / Taggart Law Firm
 Don and Carole Thieme
 Donald and Nancy Thompson
 Bob and Lauren Tomhave
 Louis and Harriette Waldhour
 John and Ann Walsh
 Margaret and Tim Wallace
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Weiss
 Mr. and Mrs. C. Michael Wertz
 Dr & Mrs. Christopher M Whelan





Heritage Enhanced

Significant decorative enhancements also took place and several new liturgical features were added. The restored Cathedral was rededicated in November 2000 to honor the 150th anniversary of the Diocese of Savannah.



Friends of the Cathedral Circle

Any gift up to \$499

Anonymous Donor
 Brett and Milly Bouy
 Reverend Brett Brannen
 Randy Brinks
 Chatham Home Builders
 Creighton Capel
 Theresa M. Collins
 Walter Corish, Jr. / Corish and
 Company
 Mr. and Mrs. V.G. Crider, Jr.
 Mary Faye Craft
 Daughters of Ireland
 Tim and Donna Daugherty
 Arlene & Jonathan Distel
 Charles and Cher Duprey
 Robert and Joyce Egan
 Kevin and Jacqueline Eastman
 Steven and Dolores G. Eighelberger
 Gary and Donna Elwell
 Lynne Everett
 Pembroke and Rebecca Faucette
 Jim and Mary Forbes
 Friendly Sons of St. Patrick
 Fine Gael Society
 Fenian Society of Savannah
 Jim Gallagher
 Kathleen Garrison
 Julius Gaudry

Raymond and Mary Gawronski
 Aless and Mitch Gullikson
 Richard and Anne Hackett
 Mary and Ben Hadsell
 Ronnie L. Hall and Carla Ann Hall
 Douglas H. Hanzel
 Robert Harcharik and Angela Smith
 Charlotte P. Harrell
 Joseph and Joan Heinen
 Holy Family Catholic Church
 William A. Howard
 Mr. and Mrs. Mario Incorvaia
 Nick and Casey Ives
 Donald F. & Sheila M. Jemella
 Mary and Gary Johnson
 James and Michele Karnes
 Philip and Connie Keating
 Greg and Lisa Kelly
 Mary Lawrence Kennickell
 Monica Kerr
 Kevin and Maria Kruse
 Kim Kuebler
 Mark Lewis
 Loretto Lominack
 George & Cindy Lowerts
 Dr. Carol Luetzow
 Doug and Brenda Marchand
 Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Matthews
 Manuel and Beth Martinez
 H. Richard Miller
 Joseph and Mary Moriarty
 Christin Mullally
 Joseph and Angeline Theriault
 Mullin
 Lucas A. Neuffer
 Richard North
 Moira Novak
 Tom and Maureen O'Brian
 Police Emerald Society
 George and Judy Painter

Brian and Paula Palmer
 Joseph and Patricia Parr
 Andrée and Jack Patterson
 Joe and Suzanne Plucker
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Poirier
 Dan and Jane Pruitt
 Robert and Denise Quinn
 John Rios
 Ernest Rubadue
 Katherine Scardino
 Walter and Joan Schaafl
 Rick and Betty Shay
 Jim and Cathy Siler
 Fran Sloane
 Robert T. and Pamela Vercellone
 Smith
 Christian and Amy Sottile
 Janet T. Spillane
 Matilda L. Stacy
 Charles Stappenbeck
 Bill and JoAnn Sterritt
 Jeffery and Sandra Stone
 South State Bank
 St. Mary's on the Hill
 St. Paul Catholic Church
 St. Vincent's Academy
 Neyle Theriault
 Joseph and Betty Thomas
 Nancy Thompson
 Mr. and Mrs. Bart Traywick
 Curtis and Margit Velasco
 John and Jacqueline Wachowski
 Judith Ann Wade
 Andy and Kate Wallington
 Tom and Pam Walter
 Nancy Welcher
 Beth N. Whelan
 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen B. Williams
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Woelber





Our Heritage Will Be Sustained for Future Generations

Members of the Cathedral Preservation Society attended a dinner on November 19, 2016 at the Savannah Golf Club to celebrate the conclusion of a very successful fundraising effort. The continued support of Preservation Society members will guarantee that this iconic landmark will be preserved for generations to come.



Gifts In Honor of / In Memory of

Patrick, Dustin, and Nicholas Aliffi

In Memory of the first generation of the Aliffi family in Savannah: Grace, Sal, Yano, Ches, Frank, Tony, Joe,

John, Mike and Julie Estvander

In Memory of our grandparents
In Honor of our parents

Timothy D. Farley

In Memory of John H. Farley, Jr.

Charles T. Ganem

In Memory of Otto Aliffi

Charles and Julia Hitchins

In Memory of Hitchins /Taylor deceased members

Brian & Marylyn Howe

In Memory of Charles W. Sweeney

Mr. and Mrs. Mario Incorvaia

In Memory of Albert J. Incorvaia

Dr. Catherine Dunn Kostilnik

In Memory of beloved grandmother Marie G. Dunn

George & Cindy Lowerts

In Honor of Monsignor Willie O. O'Neill

Lucas A. Neuffer

In Memory of Jacob Neuffer, Sr.

Peter and Barbara Paolucci

In Memory of Frank Baker

Dr. & Mrs. Ed Richards

In Honor of the future Mr. & Mrs. Kyle McMeekin

Anne and Bill Shira

In Honor of Mary Sullivan Curran

Bill and JoAnn Sterritt

In Memory of Bruton B. Schardt

Tim & Lisa Swinson

In Honor of Curtis & Agnes Swinson

Dr & Mrs. Christopher M. Whelan

In Memory of Joseph A. Whelan

In Honor of Moody D. Wharam, Jr.

Joseph and Angeline Theriault Mullin

In Memory of the Deceased of the Mullin and Theriault Families

Lists reflect all donations through December 31, 2016



Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist
222 E. Harris Street
Savannah, GA 31401-4616
912-233-4709
<http://www.savannahcathedral.org>

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Savannah GA
Permit #230

Preservation Edition
February 2017

Address Service Requested

We invite everyone interested in helping to maintain this glorious setting for worshiping God, to join the Cathedral Preservation Society. For more information go to:
<http://savannahcathedral.org/join-the-society/>

