



DOMESTORATION PROJECT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

WHY DOES THE DOME NEED WORK?

The only work that has previously been done on our dome since it was first built, was the removal of the tile roof and replacement of a copper roof. Now, there are urgent & necessary repairs that need to occur to efficiently sustain our iconic dome. A detailed analysis of the dome's condition was conducted, and it was concluded that many areas need repairs, including the dome's roofing, gutter, flashings, limestone masonry, and steel truss members. These issues are pressing but not unusual in a century-old structure like Saint Clement.

WHY ARE WE WORKING ON THE DOME NOW?

Pursuing this project now helps us wisely steward our facilities. Technological advancements have enabled us to gain a very precise scope of the dome's current needs—and allow us to strategically and cost-effectively approach any repairs. Postponing the project would result in further damage—compromising our one-of-a-kind art within the dome—and would increase the level of restoration and labor required, elevating the project cost.

HOW IS THIS PROJECT BEING FUNDED?

This \$2.6M project has been approved by the Archdiocese of Chicago and has been funded by a combination of early **Legacy.Community.Future** campaign gifts and assets borrowed from our building reserve fund.

HOW LONG WILL THE WORK LAST?

The work is slated to begin the first week of April and should wrap up by the end of October 2024.

WILL THE CHURCH BE OPEN?

Yes! The church will remain open throughout the project. Should that change, parishioners will be notified as soon as possible.

WHAT CAN WE EXPECT TO SEE DURING THE PROJECT?

While the dome renovation and preservation should not impact the interior part of the dome, you will notice scaffolding and construction equipment along the east and west sides of the exterior of the church. You may not be able to see beyond the extensively engineered scaffold system at the west side of the church and dome exterior, however, precise, and intricate work will be underway. We plan to provide weekly updates on the project via The Plaza (weekly newsletter) and at clement.org/dome

WHO IS RUNNING THE PROJECT?

With the leadership from the experts on our Buildings & Grounds Committee, architects from the Archdiocese have evaluated the structure themselves and worked with us to identify Thornton Tomasetti—a leading engineering firm with experience serving iconic clients and structures including The Art Institute and Wrigley Field—to comprehensively assess its condition. They have developed a careful, cost-effective plan to renovate it, with the work being managed and executed by Berglund Construction.