The Campaign for Emmanuel

Preserve the tradition
Help restore our Chapel

Emmanuel College
When constructed in 1917, the Emmanuel Chapel received national acclaim. Designed by the celebrated architect Charles Maginnis—who also designed the high altar of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York—the Chapel is considered a major achievement in American art and architecture.

Laurajane LeClair Fitzsimons '89
Member, Chapel Restoration Committee

"The Chapel is one of my favorite places, and I want it to be there, always. I was married there, and I was so grateful to all those who came before me for preserving it. Now, I feel I owe it to those who will come after me to restore and preserve the Chapel for them. I embrace change, but there's something to be said for tradition and stability, and the Chapel represents the best of both."
The College is committed to a restoration process that will ensure the preservation of the Chapel for the benefit of future generations. The Chapel Restoration Steering Committee comprises graduates from the 1920s to the 1990s, reflecting the Chapel's appeal to alumnae of all ages. After more than two years of work researching and planning as well as overseeing the most pressing structural repairs—including roof replacement, waterproofing, and repointing of the brickwork—the dedicated alumnae on the Committee are working with a liturgical architect and restoration experts to focus on the interior of the Chapel.

The passage of time has taken its toll. Over the years, minor repairs have been made to the water-damaged interior walls, but extensive restoration work for many facets of the Chapel is now required.

"Through my work on the Chapel Committee, I've been struck by how many special—alumnae. I've been struck by how many special—we all have of the Chapel. I remember most fondly by our Sodality and how proud I was to lead the year Preserving our Chapel for others is a most w
Major initiatives planned to restore the interior include:

- revitalize the intricately detailed ceiling
- clean and repair the ten beautiful stained glass windows—eight of which depict women honored in the Catholic church
- create a new, marble altar table
- remove soot from the marblework and,
- refinish and repair the pews and the remarkable Casavant pipe organ.

The Honorable Mary Beatty Muse '41
Trustee
Chair, Chapel Restoration Steering Committee

"seen in touch with many and different—memories of the services held there group during my senior orthwhile endeavor"
“We know that the Chapel is not only liturgically rich and for private prayer intense historical and artistic revival architecture. Because of the precise and painstaking task with the donation of contributions will last for..."
Sister Ellen Glavin, SND '63
Emmanuel College
Associate Professor of Art
Member, Chapel Restoration Steering Committee

A sacred space used by the community for prayer. We may sometimes forget that it also has historic value as an elegant example of Gothic. So the Chapel Committee is approaching this discipline required to restore it properly, our generations."

Gifts to the Chapel are urgently needed and will be recognized upon completion of the restoration project. Many named giving opportunities are available for you to designate a specific restoration effort in the Chapel—either in your name or in memory of a loved one.

You can play an important role in restoring the Chapel and preserving it as a place of celebration and spiritual vitality. To learn more, please contact the Office of Development and Alumnae Relations at 617/735-9771.
The Emmanuel Chapel is more than a place of beauty and historical significance. It is also an essential element in the College's Catholic mission and tradition. For eight decades, students, alumnae, faculty, administrators, and friends have come together here to celebrate and to express their faith. Undergraduate traditions such as the Junior Ring Ceremony, Founder's Day, and Cap and Gown Sunday continue, and alumnae return to exchange wedding vows, to attend memorial liturgies, and to celebrate with their reunion classes. The Chapel also serves as a place of worship for neighborhood residents as well as staff and visitors to the area's many hospitals, and it is the only Catholic chapel in the new Colleges of the Fenway consortium.

It is also in serious need of repair—which is why the College is undertaking a Chapel restoration project, the first in our history.