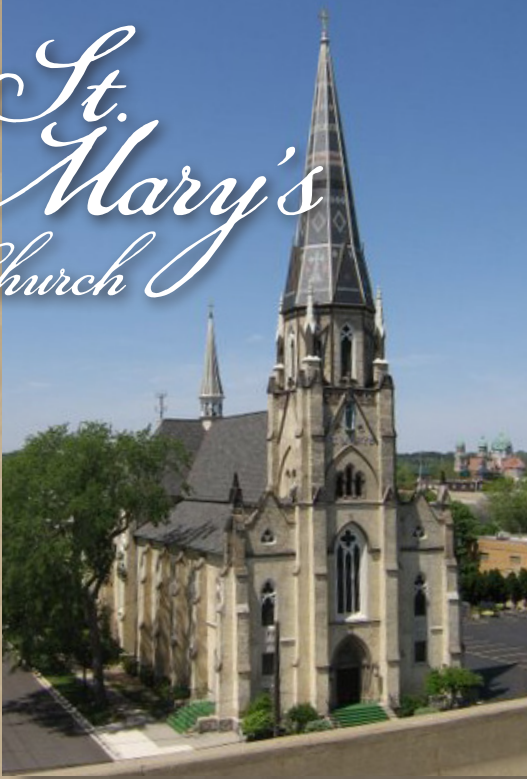


St. Mary's Church



701 4TH ST. NW · GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504

Founded as a German parish, St. Mary's 200-foot patterned slate spire is highly visible from the adjacent elevated freeway. Built in 1873, the fine brick Gothic church was given a complete exterior envelope restoration to take it into the next 100 years.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
Owen-Ames-Kimball, Grand Rapids

ARCHITECT:
Cox-Meddendorp-Olson, Grand Rapids

 **Grand River Builders**
INCORPORATED

HISTORIC BUILDING RESTORATION

1034 WEALTHY STREET, SE · GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49506

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After extensive site and archive research, the original slate colors and patterns were reestablished.



Using a pattern sheet, the slates were carefully installed, one by one. A total of 7 different slates grace the spire.

The trip up is a long one. Slates were brought up by hand in buckets.



Almost 200 feet in the air, the new 24 carat gilded cross is installed.



New matching sheet metal cornice was formed and pre-assembled in our shop.



There was extensive copper flashing work to be done at the base of the spire, along with replacing hip caps.



Many custom ornamental sheet metal components were duplicated and installed, like these flowers on this flying buttress.