

*Friends of the Shrine of SS. Peter & Paul, Inc.*  
*Frequently Asked Questions*

- What is the Friends of the Shrine of SS. Peter & Paul, Inc.?
  - The Friends of the Shrine is a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization formed exclusively to preserve and maintain the Shrine of SS. Peter & Paul. All funds, whether donated or produced by endowment, are dedicated to structural improvements, maintenance, and utilities at the Shrine of SS. Peter & Paul. The Friends of the Shrine has maintained the Shrine for more than two years following its formation in 2019.
- Why was the Friends of the Shrine of SS. Peter & Paul, Inc. formed?
  - The Friends of the Shrine was formed by a group of former SS. Peter & Paul and current Our Lady of the Mountains Parishioners to provide financial support for the preservation of the Shrine of SS. Peter & Paul. Without the work of the Friends of the Shrine, it is possible that the Shrine would not exist today.
- Is the Friends of the Shrine affiliated with Our Lady of the Mountains and the Archdiocese of Baltimore?
  - The Friends of the Shrine cooperates with our Parish and the Archdiocese to maintain use of the Shrine as a site for Mass and Catholic worship. However, the Friends of the Shrine is a separate and independent entity with its own governing Board of Directors.
- Who will control my funds if I contribute them to Friends of the Shrine?
  - Funds contributed to Friends of the Shrine remain in the sole custody of Friends of the Shrine and are used exclusively for the benefit of the Shrine of SS. Peter & Paul.
- What will happen to my contributions if the Friends of the Shrine ceases to operate?
  - The Friends of the Shrine operates under a financial model geared to exist in perpetuity and to maintain the Shrine for generations to come. With your support and involvement, the Friends of the Shrine does not foresee an end to its operation. However, if Friends of the Shrine dissolves, then funds remaining in its operating account or endowment will be contributed to other Catholic charitable causes.
- How can I contribute to the Friends of the Shrine?
  - You may contribute monthly to operating expenses in any amount that you choose. Every dollar mailed to our organization is extremely helpful and appreciated.
  - You may contribute to our endowment so that we may fund maintenance of the Shrine for generations to come. More information is provided on the back of this page.
  - You may name the Friends of the Shrine in your estate plan, whether by Last Will & Testament, trust agreement, or as a listed beneficiary on any money account or policy. Please use the following language: "The Friends of the Shrine of SS. Peter & Paul, Inc. (tax identification 83-4437027) for its general use."
- Can I deduct contributions to Friends of the Shrine on my taxes?
  - Yes, contributions to Friends of the Shrine are tax deductible because Friends of the Shrine is a 501(c)(3) entity. In addition, estate contributions to Friends of the Shrine may be used as a strategy to minimize overall estate tax liability.
- What is the long-term goal of Friends of the Shrine?
  - The long-term strategy of Friends of the Shrine is to build a sufficient endowment to fund the regular operation and maintenance of the Shrine of SS. Peter & Paul for generations to come so that the Shrine may be protected and preserved.