

Dear Friends,

It is time. Time to make a few changes to the interior of our church. One change comes from normal wear and tear: the carpet in the church is 30 years old and is more than showing its age. Another change is required by new universal standards put in place by the Vatican for all churches. The Pastoral Council with the assistance of the Liturgy Committee, the original architect, liturgical advisors and artists have put together some ideas of how we can respond to these new standards being required for church structures. The Council had prepared this plan to take place in 2007, but postponed it because of the recession.

“It is time”

This past year, the Council decided the parish could

wait no longer. Since then, I have been meeting with parishioners, explaining the ideas, getting their responses and support for the project. Over all, the responses have been very positive. Therefore, we are presenting the ideas to the entire parish and asking for your support to take the plan from “ideas” to “reality.”

On the following pages, you will find the ideas generated by discussions with the architect and artists. At this point, they remain ideas. The only item which required an early decision was the style of the stained glass for the windows at the top of the east wall. This decision was made so that several stained glass windows could be installed to allow the parish to determine if they would wish to complete the original church design. Commissioning of artists to design and complete the other pieces will take place following the campaign.

Cost of Phase I of the project is approximately \$900,000. I am happy to say that early pledges are already nearing \$400,000. If



possible, the Pastoral Council would like to complete a portion of Phase II, a small chapel of reservation for the Eucharist to be built on the east side of the church. The chapel would add an additional couple hundred thousand dollars to the total cost to complete.

The campaign is titled, **Source and Summit**, from the Vatican Council II statement on the Eucharist in the life of the church. We are not hiring a company to run the campaign; all donations will go to the renovation of the church. We have also decided that the parish will not incur any debt beyond what has been pledged by parishioners to complete the plan. If not enough funds are donated, then portions of the plan will not be completed.

I invite you to look over this explanation of the plan. The Pastoral Council has not set a pledge goal for each family but is asking everyone to respond generously. This is your church and the place where you gather to give praise to God. Donations to improving the parish worship space should be a bit like giving to yourself since you will be using it Sunday after Sunday.

If you are interested in making a major gift to the campaign for one of the items mentioned here, please contact me.

Peace,
Fr. Damian Zuerlein



It is Time

- Phase I Cost: \$900,000
- Currently Pledged: almost \$400,000
- All donations will go to renovation (we are not using a fundraising company)
- We will not incur debt beyond what is pledged by parishioners.



Source ^{of our} *Strength*
&
Summit ^{of our} *Praise*
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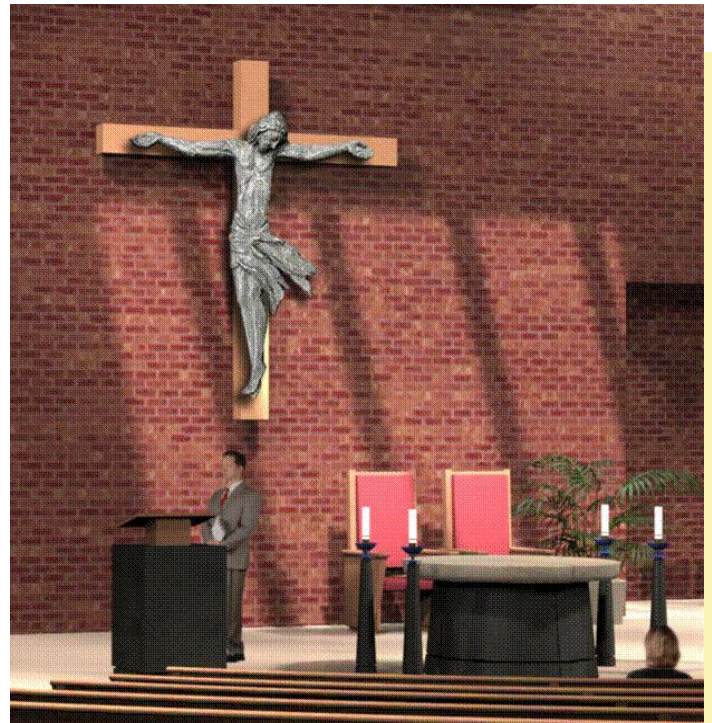


In 2002, Pope John Paul II promulgated a new instruction on the Roman Missal. This is the document that guides the universal church in its celebration of Mass. Following the Second Vatican Council, there was a period of time where the Church allowed for “experimentation” in liturgical settings as we strove to make the adjustments to the liturgy as taught by the Council. In promulgating the new instruction on the Roman Missal, the Holy Father was saying that the time of experimentation has drawn to a close and some standards were now to be applied universally. Since our church was designed during that period of “experimentation” or “testing,” we will need to make a few changes to meet the new standards. These are the changes:

Altar The new instruction offers us the following: *“It is appropriate to have a fixed altar in every church, since it more clearly and permanently signifies Christ Jesus, the living stone... The altar should be built apart from the wall, in such a way that it is possible to walk around it easily and that Mass can be celebrated at it facing the people, which is desirable wherever possible. The altar should, moreover, be so placed as to be truly the center toward which the attention of the whole congregation of the faithful naturally turns... In keeping with the Church’s traditional practice and the altar’s symbolism, the table of a fixed altar is to be of stone and indeed of natural stone. In the dioceses of the United States of America, however, wood which is worthy, solid, and well-crafted may be used, provided that the altar is structurally immobile. The supports or base for upholding the table, however, may be made of any sort of material, provided it is worthy and solid.”* Therefore, the Pastoral Council is considering an altar made of granite which would sit in the center of the sanctuary. The altar could continue the Celtic tradi-

tion of “curves and knots” by being oval or circular in shape. Cost: \$30,000.00

Ambo This is often referred to as a “podium” and is the location of the readings from scripture. The new instruction offers us the following: *“The dignity of the word of God requires that the*



church have a place that is suitable for the proclamation of the word and toward which the attention of the whole congregation of the faithful naturally turns during the Liturgy of the Word. It is appropriate that this place be ordinarily a stationary ambo and not simply a movable lectern. The ambo must be located in keeping with the design of each church in such a way that the ordained ministers and lectors may be clearly seen and heard by the faithful.” Therefore

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the Pastoral Council is considering an ambo made of granite to match the altar. Cost: \$29,000.00

Crucifix The new instruction offers the following: *“There is also to be a cross, with the figure of Christ crucified upon it, either on the altar or near it, where it is clearly visible to the assembled congregation. It is appropriate that such a cross, which calls to mind for the faithful the saving Passion of the Lord, remain near the altar even outside of liturgical celebrations.”* Presently, the church has an image of the Risen Christ near the altar. That image has been in the church from the beginning and is beloved by many parishioners. It is the desire of the Pastoral Council to keep the image in the church, if possible, while at the same time incorporating a new crucifix near the altar. The Council had numerous meetings with a local artist, John Labaj, and with the architect for the church building. They concluded that the best possible solution was to place the Risen Christ above the alcove where the choir sings and put a new crucifix with an artistic design similar to the Risen Christ in the center.

New crucifix with inlaid wood background. Cost: \$70,000.00

Choosing to keep the Risen Christ and placing it above the choir area requires, for the sake of balance, a new piece of art be placed above the alcove where the tabernacle will be placed. An early suggestion had been that this piece of art



represent a moment in the life of Jesus connected to the Eucharist, such as the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. One such suggested image from John Labaj are pictured below left.

Three-piece work of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Cost: \$70,000.00



Tabernacle The new instruction offers us the following: *“In accordance with the structure of each church and legitimate local customs, the Most Blessed Sacrament should be reserved in a tabernacle in a part of the church that is truly noble, prominent, readily visible, beautifully decorated, and suitable for prayer. The one tabernacle should be immovable, be made of solid and inviolable material that is not transparent, and be locked in such a way that the danger of profanation is prevented to the greatest extent possible... it is preferable that the tabernacle be located, according to the judgment of the Diocesan Bishop,*

- A) *Either in the sanctuary, apart from the altar of celebration, in a form and place more appropriate, not excluding on an old altar no longer used for celebration.*
- B) *Or even in some chapel suitable for the faithful's private adoration and prayer and which is organically connected to the church and readily visible to the Christian faithful.”*

The Pastoral Council prefers to have a separate chapel for the reservation of the Eucharist. However, since the present placement of the chapel



makes it difficult for the tabernacle to be easily seen in the main body of the church, the best solution appears to be placing the tabernacle in the alcove to the north of the altar area. The stand on which the tabernacle is to be placed should match the stone of the altar and ambo. Cost: \$12,000.00.

The hope is to construct a small Eucharistic chapel during the second phase of the campaign on the east side of the church with the tabernacle being visible from both sides.

Flooring The carpet that is presently in the church was installed at the time the church was built in 1981. It has graciously served the parish and is in need of replacement. Present standards for churches generally encourage the use of stone or tile in churches to increase the dignity of the space and to add to the sense of permanence. However, the use of stone or tile throughout the liturgical space could make the building noisy. Therefore, the Pastoral Council is suggesting the use of tile in the sanctuary area and in some of the aisles. Carpeting would be placed under the pews and in the non-tiled aisles to make it qui-

eter. The present wooden platform which supports the sanctuary area would be replaced with a concrete platform to support the new altar and ambo.

Estimated Cost: \$321,027.00

Stained Glass Windows In the original design of the church, stained glass windows were to be placed in the windows at the top of the east wall of the sanctuary. Adding these stained glass windows would complete the sacred environment and help parishioners feel like they were in the presence of the sacred when they are in the church rather than in any common secular space. They would also add to the beauty of the church. The Pastoral Council has invited designs from the Willet Hauser Company incorporating themes of the life of St. Columbkille and themes from the core beliefs of Christianity. The windows would be placed on the inside of the church, with the existing external windows providing protection from the elements.

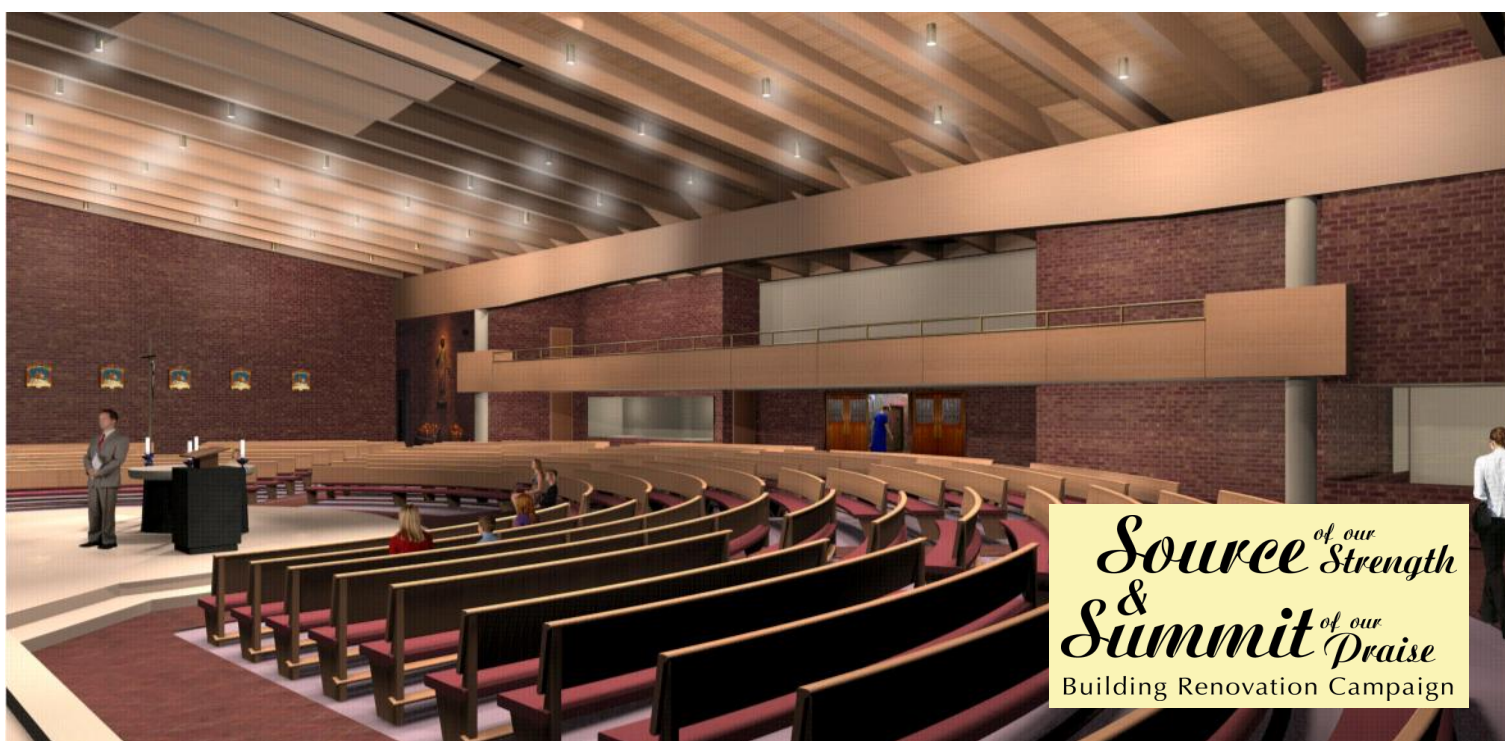
Estimated Cost: \$7,000.00 per window; 20 windows; Total Estimated Cost: \$140,000.0



Phase II

Chapel The church structure has, at present, a chapel for Eucharistic reservation available for private prayer and adoration. By moving the tabernacle to the alcove north of the altar area, this option for private prayer before the tabernacle will be lost and adoration would have to take place in the main body of the church. One option would be to build a chapel on the east side of the church with the tabernacle being accessible from both the chapel and the church. It is hoped that some of the stained glass windows from the old church could be used in the building of such a chapel. Cost for this chapel would depend on size; beginning at \$300,000.00.

Balcony The new placement of the tabernacle will result in a loss of seating for about 30 people. One proposal to compensate for the loss of seating would be to build a balcony above the main entry doors running from the outer wall of the cry room to the outer wall of the confessional. This would entail a second stairwell to the balcony and would add seating for more than 100 persons. Cost for this proposal is unknown at this time.



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Order of completion as funds become available

The first group of items to be completed would be those in the sanctuary space: altar, ambo, tabernacle and crucifix. This group would include the new platform and flooring for the sanctuary area.

The second group of items would be the tiling and carpeting of the floor in the main body of the church.

The third group would include the remainder of the stained glass windows and the art piece above the tabernacle area.

Phase II would begin with the design and construction of a Eucharistic Chapel of Reservation. The balcony would be the final piece to be constructed if parking limitations and other parish issues have been resolved.

