



May 11, 2008

# UPDATE

## *Our Permanent Church—Another Step Closer!*

—Rev. Michael Ratajczak

Today we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, the day on which the Spirit enlivened the Church. On this day of the Holy Spirit, the Church truly came to be the Body of Christ called and sent forward to continue the mission and ministry of Jesus.

On this day of the Spirit, I am very happy to announce that we have moved another step closer to our dreams becoming reality in regard to the building of our permanent Church!

We have selected an Architect and a Liturgical Consultant for its design and build-out!

The *New Construction Committee (NCC)* is chaired by Brian Leahey and presently consists of members: Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Ron Briseno, Todd Cadieux, Doug Crimaldi, Tom Dean, Pat Goscienski, Phil Goscienski, George Gritt, Phil Hermsmeyer, Mike Jocelyn, Wil Pinaroc, Randy Reznicek, Charles Salter, Jim Treat, Catherine Wilson, Bob Wojcik, and Michael Yambrach.

The *NCC* has met several times and is preparing itself for the intense work it will do in the next few years as the Construction Documents are drawn up and, then, as the Church is built.

The first task of the *NCC* was to create an *Architect Interview Committee (AIC)*, which is a sub-committee of the *NCC*. The purpose of this committee was to interview architectural firms and to select an Architect.

The *AIC* consists of members: Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Doug Crimaldi, Pat Goscienski, Phil Goscienski, George Gritt, Brian Leahey, Catherine Wilson, and Michael Yambrach.

Over the last three months, the *AIC* has interviewed four architectural firms. The initial interview with



each firm was very detailed, each interview lasting two to three hours in length.

Following the initial interviews, there were follow-up questions to the firms that were answered by e-mail. The *AIC* also met several times to assess the interviews and to discuss the firms and their ability to carry out the project.

This committee was blessed with four excellent firms from which to choose, and the choice was not easy.

After much thought and consideration, ***Renzo Zecchetto Architects of Santa Monica, California*** was selected to carry out the creation of our construction documents. This firm created our original master plan, designed our present Parish Center, and modified our master plan for the Conformance Review of our Conditional Use Permit (CUP), which was approved in February 2007.

In ***Renzo Zecchetto Architects***, we have an old friend who knows us, is truly “in synch” with our past, and will keep us “in synch” as we move into the future. Once again retaining ***Renzo Zecchetto Architects*** will assure us of continuity in theme and design of our Parish Campus.

The interview process, although lengthy, detailed, and intense, and the knowledgeable input of the members of the *AIC* provided me with the needed

information and background to confidently make the selection of **Renzo Zecchetto Architects**.

The Delivery Model will be "Design/Assist." The contractor who will assist in the creation of the Construction Documents has not yet been selected.

The *Interior Design Team (IDT)* is chaired by Phil and Pat Goscienski. The team consists of members: Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Charlene Buhlert, Mary Castle, Diana Diaz, Mario Diaz, Lorraine Doering, Ann Eriksson, Douglas Lynn, Amy Martinez, Sondra Parks, Kathy Quinn, Chris Smith, and Bob Wong.

The *IDT* has been meeting for the last several years and has visited more than 12 recently built churches in preparation for its work.

The *IDT* has been, and is, preparing itself by reading all the necessary Church documents that relate to the proper liturgical environment that is to be created within the Church for a worthy celebration of both the Eucharist and all the Sacraments, in accord with present Diocese-approved pastoral practice.

The *IDT* also was charged with interviewing and selecting a Liturgical Consultant that would assist the *IDT* in creating the necessary interior environment within the Church.

Over a period of time, four liturgical consultants were interviewed. Each of the interviews was lengthy and detailed, lasting two to three hours.

There was much discussion that took place at a number of meetings in regard to the liturgical consultants who were interviewed.

Once again, all of this valuable input from the *IDT* allowed me to confidently make the selection of **Robert Habiger of Dekker/Perich/Sabatini in Albuquerque, New Mexico** as our Liturgical Consultant.

With the selection of **Renzo Zecchetto Architects** and **Robert Habiger of Dekker/Perich/Sabatini**, we confidently take another step in turning our dreams into reality.

We now move forward with all of our Construction Documents and necessary City and County permits to prepare ourselves to break ground in 18 to 24 months!

My heartfelt gratitude is extended to all the members of the **New Construction Committee** and the **Interior Design Team**. Much has already been done, and much more still awaits us.

Regarding the financial support of this endeavor, it must be said that the entire Parish has been extremely supportive of the Capital Campaign. It is because of this support that we are where we are. Please know that I am very grateful for this support!

You are encouraged to continue your level of giving and to increase it, if you can, so that we can expeditiously move forward.

I realize the present state of the economy is not good, and it will be a challenge for us; but I know that we will rise to the occasion, as St. Thomas More Parish has done so many times in the past.

For all that has been, Thank You!  
For all that will be, Yes!



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**If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor 760.758.4100 x100 or [michaelr@stmoside.org](mailto:michaelr@stmoside.org)**

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