

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH
Interior Design Team Meeting
September 9, 2014

Present: Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor; Kathy Arciero, Charlene Buhlert, Diana Diaz, Mario Diaz, Lorraine Doering, Ann Eriksson, Pat Goscienski, Phil Goscienski, Robert Habiger, Brian Leahey, Douglas Lynn, Sondra Parks, Kathleen Quinn, Chris Smith

Absent, Excused: Mary Castle

The meeting opened with prayer at 7:10 PM.

- **Status of the Font Lid**

Robert Habiger showed us pictures of the font lid now being designed. We learned that it is to be made of bronze, shaped as a dome, 47" wide, 2 ½" high at the apex. We were shown various designs for the lid, some abstract, some with flower-like motifs. Robert Habiger showed a video presentation that explains how sound is made visible through a process called cymatics. One design proposed by the artist, Stephen Hirt, has a design based on sacred music or chant which we found desirable.

We saw illustrations of how the domed lid will appear with the font pedestal and surrounding stonework. The floor consists of 18" x 36" stone slabs fitted closely together. The domed lid will be made in six pieces which can be removed and stored when necessary, perhaps in the pump room nearby. A stainless steel armature will hold the six pieces in place. Although not encouraged, a person could walk safely over the domed lid.

It was suggested that we have a way to explain the meaning of the design on the font lid, perhaps by an "app" for iPhones. Father Mike told us a brochure will be prepared to aid visitors with explanations of the meaning of all the furnishings in the sanctuary.

- **Status of the Altar**

We saw photographs of the altar which is now complete and were very pleased at its appearance. It will be shipped to us in the very near future. It will be put in place before the roof is installed.

- **Status of the Tabernacle**

We reviewed various illustrations of the proposed tabernacle to be placed in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The tabernacle interior will be made of stainless steel in the shape of a cylinder. There will be a separate "luna" incorporated into one of the sides of the tabernacle which will allow exposition of the Eucharist when desired. This would take

the place of a monstrance. We saw illustrations of hammered/carved bronze for the backdrop. The tabernacle will be placed on a cantilevered shelf made of olivine attached to the wall.

The design of the eternal lamp is finished. We did not see an illustration of it at this time.

- **Update from Brian Leahey, Manager of Construction**

Brian told us of how our many suppliers have provided high quality items at competitive prices. The pews and louvers will be made of matching “plain saw” cherry, a dark wood that is very pleasing. The main entry doors will be made of bronze by a supplier that provided doors for other churches in the area. For these doors “donor plaques” can be made available so that anyone who wishes to donate in the name of a loved one or a family can do so and have an appropriate symbol attached to the door.

He told us that the McMann family has donated the cost of the stainless steel cross that will be placed on the tower. McMann is the supplier of the steel for the construction of the church.

Brian told us that parishioner Jim Treat has given invaluable advice and direction for the installation of the sound system.

He gave us an update on the travertine marble for the floors. Various qualities were available; he was able to find the excellent quality at a competitive price that he and the architect preferred.

Brian would like to invite parishioners to tour the building site in the near future. He and his crew would prepare the grounds so people can walk in safety and see for themselves how the construction is proceeding. Completion is scheduled for late April, 2015 with dedication in the following months after all the interior furnishings have been installed.

Our next meeting will take place on November 11. There will not be a meeting in October. At the November meeting, John Nava will give us an update on the tapestry for the St. Thomas More shrine. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Quinn