

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
Interior Design Team Meeting  
October 13, 2015

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

Absent, Excused: Mary Castle, Mario Diaz, Chris Smith

- The meeting opened with the Prayer of Dedication. Father Mike reported that the acquisition of the mosaic depiction of Christ the Redeemer is going well and \$106,000 has been pledged. This amount is enough to cover the cost of removing the mosaic and storing it safely until the rest of the money is raised. At that time, work will continue on cutting it into manageable pieces, stabilizing the pieces and preparing to move it to our site. Brian Leahey is overseeing this project.
- In a report from Robert Habiger we learned that Stephen Hirt plans to have the baptismal font and tabernacle ready and shipped to our site by Thanksgiving. Kathy Arciero remarked that she had visited Stephen Hirt's studio recently and had seen the font cover. The bronze basin which will be on top of the plinth is thirty inches across. Stephen Hirt has been doing overflow tests and all is well. The basin stands 32-34" high and will be firmly attached to the plinth so there is no danger of it tipping over.
- Robert Habiger reported on the progress of the tabernacle to be placed in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. It will be constructed of stainless steel and bronze. It will be placed on a shelf which will have a thin layer of olivine on it. The shelf will be attached to the wall and be wide enough so that the tabernacle can be opened in a manner best described as "unfolding". The interior of the tabernacle will hold the ciboria. It was decided that a shelf inside the tabernacle would not be needed nor desired. On the wall behind the shelf a narrow tall decoration made of hammered gold leaf will be applied. It was mentioned that the artist is seeking "simplicity" in the design. The tabernacle should arrive by Thanksgiving.

- Robert Habiger reported that Elizabeth Devereaux, the artist who is creating the stained glass for the Reconciliation Room will be delivering the glass by December 2-4. The light and color from this glass will be visible from the Eucharistic Hall when the door to the Reconciliation Room is open.
- Lynn Kircher, the artist who created the corpus for the crucifixion, is working on the image of Jesus at Emmaus that will be placed in the Daily Mass Chapel. This statue will be similar in materials to the image of the crucifixion.
- A question was raised about how we can prevent graffiti from marring our new building. The white walls will be a temptation. We learned that this possibility has been addressed and various methods to prevent the vandalism are being pursued.
- The Stations of the Cross to be installed in the Meditation Garden will not be ready by the Dedication Day. Landscaping is ongoing. Cement is to be laid in the plaza soon.
- Various small questions were addressed:

Design and fabrication of the ambry? Renzo is handling.

Seasonal fabrics? To be addressed later

Bronze doors for the entry? They were delivered and are ready to be installed.

Credence table? is attached to the back wall of the sanctuary

Book of Gospels display? This has been addressed

Candles? We will no longer use oil candles. All will be 14 day wax candles.

Paschal Candle? It has been ordered.

In many cases we will use what we have for now.

- Landscaping is under way now. For the time being, we should use the ramp that takes us to the upper level. Concrete for the plaza will be poured this week.

- The travertine floor has been installed and sealed. Mill work is finishing now. Lebanese cedar will be installed on the cross that will hold the corpus.
- Pews will be delivered October 19.
- Question about when to install the tapestry? It should be done before the sound check.
- The organ will be moved into the new sanctuary on November 9. The speakers will be moved at the same time. They may need to be painted and this can be done. We are pleased with the acoustics in the sanctuary. Parishioner Jim Treat is working closely with Brian Leahey on the sound system.
- Jane Gladden, who handles our publicity and media relations, is in touch with *Southern Cross* newspaper and the *San Diego Union Tribune*. Hopefully, they will cover the dedication and opening ceremonies of the new church.
- Kathy Arciero reported on the acquisition of votive candles to be placed on the wall mounted Dedication Crosses.
- Father Mike told us he would like us as members of the Interior Design Team to be the docents after the Dedication Mass. We would be placed in various places in the new sanctuary and chapels where we could answer questions and tell the history of how the items were designed and made.
- Father Mike told us that new vestments are being created for the Dedication Day Mass. Bishop McElroy will have new vestments and a new miter. Vestments will be made for Father Michael Ratajczak, Father Karl Bauer, Father Peter McGuine, Father Richard Lewandowski, Msgr. Richard Duncanson, Deacon Tom Goeltz, and Deacon John Fredette. This new set of vestments can then be used for funeral Masses and other concelebrated Masses.
- It was decided that no further meetings of the committee are necessary. We ended with expressions of gratitude from Father Mike to all of us.

Submitted by  
*Kathleen Quinn*