

ST. MARY OF THE ANNUNCIATION
RENOVATION PROJECT
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT does this initiative entail?

St. Mary's 2015 is a capital improvement initiative which seeks to upgrade our current facilities through a major renovation of our Worship Space and the construction of a parking lot through the acquisition of the adjacent property- (currently the Mackey Funeral Home). The renovation project will bring our worship space up to date and into compliance with current liturgical norms and requirements while preserving its distinctive Romanesque Architecture. Through the renovation we will be aligning our faith community with the Second Vatican Council's vision, that in the Liturgy, "the full conscious and active participation of the faithful" should be considered above all else.

WHO is executing this project?

As most parishioners should be aware, we launched a feasibility study last year in which a committee which comprised members of the Parish Staff, members of the Parish Pastoral Council, members of the Parish Liturgical Commission and parishioners with expertise in engineering and construction. The members of the committee worked with Mr. Butch Razoyk of ADC Architects to study our current worship space and determine what might be feasible as regards renovation of our worship space. The committee unanimously supported the initiative and presented its findings to the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Council. Both councils strongly supported the initiative and the decision was made to move forward with both the renovation project, as well as the plan for the construction of a parking lot. We also obtained the necessary permissions from the Archdiocese in collaboration with the Facilities Department of the Archdiocese. Mr. Razoyk was retained as the architect for the project and upon completion of architect's drawings, the project will go out to bid to General Contractors.

WHEN will this project begin and how will it impact our Sunday and Daily Worship?

At this point, we expect to have the contractor begin work on the new addition early in September. Initially, we will continue to utilize the church and the chapel for our Sunday and Daily Liturgies. At some point, probably in November or December we will transition to temporary locations for Sunday and Daily Liturgy and would expect to be out of the Church for approximately 5 months.

WHERE will Sunday and Daily Eucharist and other sacramental celebrations be held while we are out of the church and the chapel?

We have a number of possible options as regards temporary worship sites during the portion of the construction period which will have us worshipping elsewhere. We will make every effort to minimize inconvenience and disruption for parishioners and will make all plans for use of transitional space available to parishioners well in advance of our temporary move out of the church and chapel.

HOW are we financing this initiative and HOW much will it cost?

The majority of the funding for this project will come from the liquidation of a real estate asset that was determined to be excess in consultation with the Archdiocese. This is a parcel of land which abuts Annunciation Cemetery. The remainder of the funding (approximately 25%) will come from a Capital Fundraising Campaign. The cost of the combined projects is anticipated to be approximately 3.75 million dollars.

WHY is the parish undertaking this initiative?

This will be the first significant renovation of our worship space since the aftermath of Vatican II in the 1960s- well over 50 years ago. In the last fifty years there has been tremendous development in understanding with regard to the importance of having a worship space that allows the assembly- the people of God gathered for worship- to fully participate in the Liturgy instead of simply attending Mass. There is also today a much greater appreciation of the importance of hospitality, accessibility for persons with disabilities and perhaps most importantly, adequate space for people to encounter the living God who seeks to nourish his people in word and sacrament. Parking of course, is part and parcel of hospitality. Having a parking facility enables a community to more readily welcome people to join the community for prayer and worship. All in all, this initiative will situate our faith community well for ministry and evangelization in this 21st century and hopefully beyond.