

April 2017

Capital Campaign Construction and Repair Update

Hi Friends,

It's a great joy to update you on the things going on at Annunciation in regards to the Phase 1 Construction and the repair work on the church. The Archdiocese Building Commission held a meeting with us to review the plans as we are nearing finalization. The architects are making some changes based on the things that they asked us to incorporate.

The architects are also helping us with our effort to find a solution to the required emergency exit located at the East (altar), end of the church. The solution is to use the exit by the St. Joseph altar. Therefore, we need to change the footprint of the location of the vesting sacristy and the church rectory. The architects are working on those drawings now. We hope to be able to view them in the upcoming weeks so that we can make decisions and move forward. Once those specifications are developed and finalized, then the architectural firm will begin the permitting process.

At the same time the architects are also working on finalizing the specifications that are needed to be able to get our project out for bids. We have submitted some construction companies to bid on our project. They are being vetted by the Archdiocesan offices to make sure they meet the qualifications. The permit process could take somewhere in the range of 3-4 months, although it is hard to pin it down to a specific timeframe.

With regards to repairs in the church, we are in a discovery mode. We are trying to inspect everything to have a reasonable assessment about the needs of the church. Below are the areas that are in repair or soon to begin:

The chapel of Our Lady of Perpetual Help needs some work because of foundation problems and movement. Engineering inspections have taken place. We are preparing to do excavations on the outside of the chapel. This will allow them to be able to determine what needs to be done to repair the foundation of the chapel. Once the foundation is repaired and stabilized, then we can do the interior repair work, clean the chapel and return our restored icon to its proper place. While we are very eager for the return of our beloved icon, it is going to take some time to ensure best results.

We have also identified some areas of concern in the foyers. The foyer on the southwest corner facing Crawford St. has a roof leak. The foyer doors have problems closing properly because of termite damage. We are also investigating the termite damage to the bell tower. This requires that we tear out some of the plaster in the interior of the walls to see the extent of the termite damage. We must make sure that we take care of these issues so that the church is preserved in good repair. We cannot let the church continue to deteriorate.

I am so grateful for everyone who has been supportive of our efforts in both; repairs, and towards the Capital Campaign. Thank you for your pledges and contributions. Keep those payments coming in.

I am also grateful for those who have been collaborating with us, working very diligently in our ongoing efforts to continue to raise attention, awareness, participation and invitation to our church. It is wonderful that so many are drawn into the beauty and dignity of everything that we are doing. I am doing my best to do my part. We have so many who are. This demonstrates a true communion of love... Wonderful people who seek to serve the Lord in an extraordinary kind of way, in an extraordinary kind of parish. Thank you very much and God bless you.

Your Pastor,



Fr. Paul Felix

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