

Dear parishioners:

2/15/14

As you may remember from prior announcements, the State Orchard site is to be sold and land on Valley View is to be purchased. The new location is 10 acres on the NE corner of Valley View and College Road, immediately south of Iowa Western Community College and immediately east of Valley View Elementary School. Such a location provides multiple access points for traffic, is very flat, is in a busy and "visible" location of the CB community, provides for current and future needs, and provides an easy and direct way of being a Newman Center for ministry to college students at IWCC.

To give a little perspective of where we are currently at, please read the general description below and look at the two-dimensional church design on this insert. For those of you who have stopped by the office in the last six weeks, the church design has been available for anyone to see. It is now located in the main entrance of the church. Please be mindful that it is a design not a blue print. Based upon further feedback and a campaign feasibility study, particulars may change but the general idea would remain.

St. Patrick Catholic Church was built in 1925 and its entire facility is insured at a replacement cost of \$4.5 million. From a structural, infrastructural, and parking perspective the facility requires significant investments for repairs, restorations, and renovations/expansions. With a facility almost 90 years old, multiple major maintenance items will be coming up that are estimated to exceed \$800,000. Such costs include but are not limited to: upgrading the electrical system, foundation leaks, replacing piping, windows, sound system, pews, HVAC, sanitary service lines, making the facility truly handicap accessible, etc. This would be basically "surgery" on the current facility. The insides of the facility would change but the outward appearance would not.

Furthermore, St. Patrick Parish has outgrown its existing facility in terms of functional use to accommodate many of the parish's physical and spiritual needs including, but not limited to: a much larger Gathering Space, a bigger and easily accessible Social Hall, a larger worship space for major celebrations, proper family restrooms, improved space for Sacrament of Reconciliation and Youth & Children Liturgy, etc...

As a result these issues and looking to the future, the Diocese approved St. Patrick Parish in 2007 to purchase land with the intention of relocating the Parish. In August 2012, the Project was reactivated by Fr. David Fleming and a nine member Building Committee was formed. In December 2012, Fr. Glen Wilwerding replaced Fr. David Fleming as Pastor.

In September 2012 Big Creek Design Group, Inc. was hired for Master Planning Services to develop a Build Program Summary and a Conceptual Design. The design is what you see on the other side. A "design-build" approach was used at meetings held over 6 months to determine current and long-term needs. An educational component was part of the process that included reading Church documents and touring eight Catholic churches.

From the multiple meetings, a significant need was identified for a facility that improved the community and worship dimensions (a much larger gathering space, a larger social hall and better location, larger worship space particularly for major events, resolved handicap accessibility). A requirement of Bishop Pates was that it be designed for expansion to accommodate long-term growth and with at least two entrances/exits.

With basic needs determined a Building Program with estimated costs was developed identifying spaces and activities required to meet those needs. From that point a general Conceptual Design was developed for Phase One and for a potential Phase Two. More will be explained about Phase One and Phase Two in future inserts.

There is a lot to say, but for those who haven't been in the office to see the design, I wanted to make sure that you get at least a general idea of the design and the reasons behind it all. This will probably raise more questions, but that is okay. That is part of the process. Such discussions do not resolve themselves in five minutes. Genuine time is needed. With time we will learn together.

Fr. Glen