

Dear parishioners:

3/1/14

Thank you all for looking over the parish bulletins to learn more about the church relocation project. Submitted in the two prior bulletins was the two dimensional version of the church/hall design with the rooms' layout and the general layout of how it would appear on the land itself. If you have missed prior bulletin information, please check the parish website [www.saintpatschurch.org](http://www.saintpatschurch.org) and look to the left for the "Parish Building Project" button. It contains all the prior announcements available for you.

There were questions regarding a cry room. The space labeled as "chapel" would actually double as a cry room. The space is meant to be used as a cry room during weekend masses. The capacity of the room is 20 and is immediately next to a family restroom. When not used as a cry room during weekend masses, the space can be used as a 24-hour adoration chapel. To be used as such, an electronic key code would need to be installed on the front door. For security reasons the second set of doors at the main entrance would remain locked as well as the chapel doors that lead into the main church area.

Another question that arose was regarding the location of the kitchen. This question fostered much discussion among the building committee as well. A requirement by the bishop was that the design be created for expansion, meaning that a Phase 1 and Phase 2 was required. If no Phase 2 was required, the question of location would be very easy. It is not easy or economical to move a kitchen from one room to another. Once a location is determined, that means electronic hookups, drains, garbage disposals, and a back entrance need to be created to make the space useful. It is not a good idea to move a Phase 1 kitchen to a different location for Phase 2.

The kitchen is close to the back entrance where a drive-up and drop-off area is already included. The space itself is far more efficient than the kitchen space we currently have. Knowing that the Phase 1 Worship Area would become the Phase 2 Social Hall, it made the most sense to have a kitchen maintain a relationship with the Phase 1 Parish Hall by being close, but ultimately be closest to the Phase 2 Parish Hall.

Another question was regarding the building's orientation. The main entrance would face south and would use the same characteristics of the current church's main entrance. The smaller north entrance would be a drive-up/drop-off entrance. If you match the schematic study of the land, you'll notice that Phase 1 is on the east side.

Another question was regarding stained glass windows. Different parishioners have been offering different ideas of what could be done. The main concern is how can one practically remove the frames and stained glass windows without damaging them? You will notice that the stained glass is imbedded within concrete frames and that there is an exterior layer to protect the glass. Concrete frames are not made anymore. To break one means that it could not be replaced. It would be very difficult, expensive, and risky to remove an entire concrete frame and the stained glass at the same time. Very likely the frames and glass would break in the process. However, if the stained glass alone can be removed without being damaged then that would be great for it could be used in various areas. The most important parts of the stained glass are the symbols in the center. A parishioner has been asked to take a closer look to see what is possible.

St. Patrick Church/Hall

Constructed 1925 almost 90 years old  
1995 Renovation almost 20 years old  
18,000 Sq. Ft.  
Insured Replacement Cost \$4.5 million  
Upcoming Est. Structural Repairs \$800,000

Rectory

Built 1950, almost 65 years old  
Adapted 2007 as offices

Deere House

Built 1960, almost 55 years old  
Storage & meetings

New Facility Church/Hall

Construction Cost \$5.9 million  
28,000 Sq. Ft. (55% bigger overall)

New Facility

Current 1925 facility

Worship Seating	450	325 (w/ choir & balcony)
Gathering Space	3153 Sq. Ft.	374 Sq. Ft.
Parish Hall	3941 Sq. Ft.	2686 Sq. Ft.

The new facility would have a much larger gathering space and a social hall that is larger and better located. Issues of accessibility would be resolved; there are no steps, lots of handicap parking, and a drive-up/drop-off entrance. Features of the new facility that would be unique to Council Bluffs include: a cry room, a 24 hour adoration chapel, youth meeting room, the best parking set-up, the most updated sound and lighting system, and that it plans for the future.

Please educate yourself by taking your own tour around the current facility, continue to ask questions, and review the information from the bulletins and website. Thank you for your continued input. Fr. Glen