

CHURCH OF ST THOMAS MORE
Interior Design Team Meeting
Discussion of Budgets, Artists
June 12, 2012

Present: Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor; Kathy Arciero, Charlene Buhlert, Diana Diaz, Ann Eriksson, Pat Goscienski, Phil Goscienski, Robert Habiger, Douglas Lynn, Sondra Parks, Kathleen Quinn, Chris Smith

Absent:, Mary Castle, Lorraine Doering, Mario Diaz,

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM with the Prayer of Dedication.

- **Discussion of Preliminary Budgets for Liturgical Furniture, Appointments**

The committee reviewed a detailed list of the liturgical appointments for the interior of the church provided by Robert Habiger. The cost amounts listed are preliminary and are the best estimates available at this time. One item to be added to the list is the presider's table. Some items subject to modification include the cost of the crucifix. The artist Lynn Kircher is under contract to create the corpus while our architect, Renzo Zecchetto, will provide the background cross on which the corpus will be hung.

- **Discussion of the Design Process for Liturgical Furniture, Appointments**

It is important that all the furniture and appointments are compatible in design. The design of the bronze lid of the baptismal font is in process by Stephen Hirt. We looked at the samples of stone from which the altar will be sculpted. The color is not white; rather it has a green cast. The white travertine floors and walls will contrast well with the color of the altar.

- **Discussion of Stations of the Cross**

The Stations of the Cross will be placed outdoors in the meditation garden on the north side of the church. After some discussion we agreed that in the beginning each station will be depicted only by Roman numerals. This simplicity will allow us to direct our finances to higher priority items in the church. When the funds are available we can have images designed and created for each station.

- **Discussion of Seasonal Banners, Vestments**

Robert Habiger asked us to provide a list of fabric colors for the new vestments that have been purchased for the priest and the deacon. These colors can be integrated into the seasonal wall hangings. The list of the four colors: green, white, purple, and red will be provided. There are various shades within each color; it is important that these colors are coordinated. The cost of the fabrics is to be determined. The question of seasonal banners to be placed over the baptismal font was raised. Renzo has suggested that we have architectural art glass in the window area of the entry near the font that will radiate colored light. In that case the banners would not be desirable.

The idea of using the talents of parishioners to create seasonal wall hangings was presented. This requires further discussion.

- **Stained/Art Glass Discussion**

Elizabeth Devereaux has been chosen as our glass artist. We learned that she will not begin to make the glass until well into the construction phase as she needs accurate measurements of the spaces to be filled. At this time Renzo has five or six areas for the glass, not all of which will be for traditional stained glass. Rather, architectural art glass will be created and installed. Elizabeth Devereaux will begin to prepare preliminary drawings.

- **Discussion of Shrine for Mary**

Claire Wing has been chosen to design and fabricate the shrine for Mary. Typically she makes a model of the space so that all the pieces are compatible. Her vision is that of the young Mary who consents to be the Mother of God, the Annunciation scene. There was some discussion in the committee about the various images of Mary and it was agreed that the young Mary is most desirable, especially as she can be the desired model for young women of today. We asked if stained glass would be incorporated in the design. Renzo has eliminated the stained glass in this area and substituted clear glass overhead in the tower area that will illuminate the Marian shrine and, to some degree, the Reconciliation Chapel.

- **Discussion of Shrine for St. Thomas More**

John Nava has been chosen to create the 10' x 20' tapestry for the St. Thomas More shrine. He is most enthusiastic about this task and will begin design work after January 1.

- **Paschal Candle Discussion**

It was determined that only one paschal candle stand is required. Ideally it would have hidden wheels that would facilitate the movement from the font to the altar for the Easter Vigil. Discussion will continue to see if the baptismal font could in some way incorporate a stand for the Paschal candle when it needs to be in that area (specifically during the Easter Vigil.)

- **Daily Mass Chapel**

Robert Habiger presented proposed designs for Daily Mass Chapel furnishings. The illustrations show a depiction of an olive tree made of metal to be incorporated into the designs of the altar and ambo. The furnishings would be made of American Cherry wood with ebony inserts. We discussed the idea of the olive tree image and decided that a geometric abstract design, or no representation of any kind, would be preferable. The designs of the candles and crucifix will be different from the ones in the main worship space, but would be complementary.

- **Future Meetings**

The date of the next meeting is to be determined; most likely it will be on Monday, July 9 or Tuesday July 24. There will be further discussion of the altar, ambo and baptismal font at that meeting.

At the meeting scheduled for August 14, we will meet with the architect, Renzo Zecchetto to discuss pews, chairs and a donor recognition memorial in the Meditation Garden.

The meeting closed with prayer at 9:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Quinn