

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH
Interior Design Team Meeting
September 8, 2015

Present: Rev. Michael Ratajczak, Pastor; Kathy Arciero, Mary Castle, Ann Eriksson, Pat Goscienski, Phil Goscienski, Robert Habiger, Brian Leahey, Sondra Parks, Kathy Quinn, Chris Smith

Absent, Excused: Charlene Buhlert, Diana Diaz, Mario Diaz, Lorraine Doering, Jane Gladden, Douglas Lynn

- The meeting was held in the almost-completed church. A table, chairs and temporary lights were arranged. Committee members walked through the sanctuary, admiring the progress of the interior construction. The meeting opened with prayer.
- Father Mike told us we are definitely going ahead with the acquisition of the mosaic depiction of *Christ, Divine Redeemer and Master of the Universe* that is in the chapel in Connecticut. Plans to remove the mosaic are in progress: It will be cut up into 54 panels. These panels can be made available as gifts by parishioners at the rate of \$5,000 each. So far \$31,000 has been committed by parishioners; we need \$100,000 by end of the year. Each panel will be surrounded by a one-quarter inch stainless steel frame. The total cost of this project is expected to be \$270,000. Brian is working with an artist, Gianfranco Tassara. The project is insured. Brian will handle the necessary permit from the City of Oceanside. It will stand alone in the Memorial Garden.
- Daily Mass Chapel – We discussed the chairs that will be in the chapel. They will be the same as those in the choir and main sanctuary. Candle stands will be made of bronze/walnut/cherry – not brass. All candles will be made of 51% beeswax. The sanctuary lamp will be 51% beeswax as well. Brian told us the completed presiders' chairs are now on the stage so that we can see them. Robert Habiger will pursue the creation of the Daily Mass Chapel altar, ambo and candlesticks. The chapel will be finished and ready for the December 16 dedication of the church.

- Image of Christ for the Daily Mass Chapel – We looked at three drawings submitted by Lynn Kircher for a proposed bronze statue of Christ. Following our decision that we wished to have an image of the strong Christ who appeared to His disciples at Emmaus, we asked to have a joyful face, a shorter robe, broken bread in each hand, and visible wounds on the hands and feet.
- Stephen Hirt's work on the baptismal font: Robert Habiger told us of his discussion of how the lid is to be designed and constructed. The artist will use the "cymatics" concept to create a design based on Liturgy Music of John the Baptist. Design will be computer-driven. Lid will be made of linen/foam/epoxy in one piece in the center, surrounded by bronze pieces that fit together for the perimeter. We discussed how the lid would be stored as it should not be stored on its side. We hope to use the packing materials in which it arrives to hold for those times when we want to store the lid.
- Claire Wing, designer and creator of the Annunciation shrine has been ill and not working on our project. She told Robert Habiger she is grateful for our prayers and good wishes and this period away from work has given her time to think more about the design. The shrine will not be ready for the Dedication on December 16. Robert has some photos of her working that he can share.
- Tabernacle is not being worked on at present by Stephen Hirt as he has not had time for it. Elizabeth Devereaux has cut bevels for the architectural glass windows in the Reconciliation Chapel.
- Large entry doors have been delivered and are in storage. Bronze facing for the doors will be delivered in the next two-three weeks. Donor plaques made of bronze will be made available for memorials.

- Two side entry doors: Robert Habiger told us they should be reserved for exits only, unlocked. The large entry doors should be open before Mass, closed during Mass. Big side doors leading to the plaza should be unlocked and accessible before and during Mass. There will be room for additional overflow on the plaza.
- Stations of the Cross – not sure when they will be ready. They are being made and will be installed in the garden on low pedestals. Landscaping plans are uncertain, probably will use a drip system to water plants. This item will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Brian Leahey told us of some good news. They found there was no need for baffling on the air-conditioning system. That saved us some money and the air conditioning will be quiet. There is plenty of extra travertine tiles in stock. In answer to a question, he told us the exterior wood is embedded in resin and will last a long time. Eventually we will have solar panels on the roof of the present all-purpose building. This will give us substantial savings on our electrical power needs.
- There was some discussion as to how to recognize and show appreciation for all the workers who helped to construct the church.
- Next meeting is scheduled for October 13. The meeting ended with prayer.

Submitted by

Kathleen Quinn