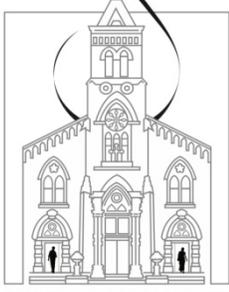


RENEW



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

REMEMBER...RENEW...REJOICE

St. Joseph Catholic Church

St. Joseph Catholic Church has had a remarkable history. Our founder, Fr. DeVries, guided in the building of two churches before building the present structure we enjoy and weekly celebrate the Mass.

REMEMBER

St. Joseph is a sacred landmark in Bowling Green and has been for one hundred-sixty years. As an important and vital spiritual home to countless generations of people, St. Joseph is not only a historical landmark but an active and transformative community ministry in Bowling Green and beyond.

St. Joseph's historic ministry to others must be preserved for generations to come. Renewing and preserving our facilities as well as the ministries that take place in and through them is imperative. Parish leadership and parishioners alike regard this renewal as a sacred mandate. The parish is resolute, therefore, and united in a shared resolve to see St. Joseph remain a strong Catholic presence in the Bowling Green community, as well as a beautiful place of worship and valued landmark for generations to come.

RENEW

Our plan for renewal is a good one. It is comprehensive, well-researched, and has been designed by some of the most professional counsel available when it comes to preserving sacred spaces and institutions. Consequently, after months of study, research, counsel and prayer, we are now prepared to conduct a financial feasibility study and determine the potential scope of our renewal project.

Presently, the entire plan for renewal is expected to cost a minimum of **\$5M**. Recognizing this is beyond our capability in a single fundraising campaign, leaders have followed the counsel of our professionals and have sub-divided the Master Plan into 3 Phases.

- **Phase One: The Structural and Historical Restoration of the Church Exterior**

This is where we must begin. Until the church exterior is air and water tight, nothing we do inside the church would matter very much. We are doing this right this time, too. We have studied this long and hard and the fix we are proposing is a 50-year fix, not a temporary fix as in the past.

What's included in Phase One? The list is long but includes brick restoration, tuck pointing, painting and water-proofing all surfaces; repairing wood windows, caulking and installing window protectors; repairing front steps, rotted wood eaves and the bell tower; refurbishing entry doors; entryways will be made handicap-accessible. We will repair gutters, replace roof sheeting, remove the current shingle roofing and replace with new metal shingle roofing. Tresses will be repaired and we will install a handicap lift which will replace the current ramp.

Phase One includes updating and repairing the Parish Hall, too. New ceiling tiles in all areas, the replacement of floors in hallways, kitchen, and bathrooms, as well as updating all bathrooms with new stalls and plumbing fixtures. We will replace the side entry doors and enhance the entire appearance of the hall inside and out, as well as update HVAC systems, etc.

When all costs are considered, Phase One is expected to be \$2,931,000 (Scott Murphy Daniel, Contractor). We will, however, receive a 20% tax credit for historical preservation bringing the portion we must raise in a capital campaign to approximately **\$2.1M**.

- **Phase Two: Entire Restoration of the Interior of the Church**

Phases Two and Three will likely have to wait until sometime in the future but plans have been underway for many months as to what would need to be done to preserve and enhance the interior beauty of our church.

Phase Two will include such things as replacing the flooring under pews and aisles, repairing and painting all surfaces with decorative painting of the church walls, arches, columns and ceiling. Pews refinished and kneelers repaired. Stations of the Cross, statues, sanctuary murals and medallion murals will be refurbished. New lighting and sound will be installed and the estimated costs from Conrad Schmitt Studies is approximately **\$2M**.

- **Phase Three: Renovation of the DeVries House or Replacing with a New Facility**

Phase Three is still in the discernment process. We do not know just yet what will be in the parish's long-term best interest when it comes to the DeVries House. The question is, "Should we seek to preserve it? Or, would we be better served removing it and replacing it with a new Parish Building?" The DeVries House needs extensive repairs both inside and out. If we were to keep it, the interior would need to go through an extensive renovation to make it more functional for parish use. Early estimates to put the facility into tip top shape and make it more functional as an office and parish-use space is a minimum of **\$1M**. So, the question is: "Should we spend \$1M on the DeVries House or apply \$1M toward the building of a new space?"

Fortunately, we do not need to make a decision on Phase Three right now. We are simply letting you know of our total parish needs and seeking your input and counsel as to what you believe we should ultimately consider doing with the DeVries House.

For now, and this immediate capital campaign, our focus is on Phase One. As noted already, unless the foundations are strong, anything else we may do to the interior of our church will not last.

REJOICE

We are to evangelize the lost, care for the poor, and gather as a community in worship of God. These purposes must go forward and our plans for renewal will help St. Joseph stay true to those purposes for generations to come. We rejoice, therefore, that God has found us faithful, committing to our care this renovation, restoration, and renewal project. Through our sacrifices, God will bless many generations to come. Together, we will renew our parish and so be a blessing to the wider community of Bowling Green, Warren County and the world.

May our plans for parish renewal be the occasion for parishioner renewal as well.

To God be the Glory,

Father Ryan Harpole