

Building Project Update 11/03/2019

Clonmelians,

Greetings from the warmth of the rectory. As the days get shorter and the thermometer goes lower I realized it was quite warm the last time I updated you on the building committee's work. There are several items I want you to be made aware of at this juncture.

First, I want to commend the building committee for their commitment to understanding our needs, the time sacrificed for numerous meetings, and the process required. It is an opportunity for each of us to learn, to deepen our personal conversion, and to grow in our trust of God for our families, our parish, and our community.

Asbestos

We received the results of our lab test on the ceiling material. I am grateful to inform you that we do NOT have asbestos in the ceiling tile. This eliminates a large cost removal project as part of any changes made to the current building.

Removal of Option A

The building committee made a decision to take option A off the table of considerations (option A was to renovate the current structure without adding any additional accommodations of space, restrooms, ADA accommodations, etc.). It was determined that a renovation without additional accommodations would result in returning to a similar situation within a few years. The building committee determined that it would be a better use of our resources to make changes that will address parish needs for several generations to come. That leaves option B and C for consideration (option B is to renovate with an addition to the church building. Option C is to build a new church building).

Architect

Bishop Kemme gave his permission for us to secure the services of an architect to help with the master planning phase of our project. Master planning helps justify our current project with a long-term view of the parish plant along with needs and changes of parish demographics. The building committee interviewed three architects over the past month and chose to work with Sheldon Architecture. Randy Crook will be the managing architect for our project. Randy will be attending our building committee meetings throughout the master planning phase in order to understand our needs. This will culminate in drawings that we will use in our next set of parish town hall meetings.

I hope this information gives insight into the process our building committee has been undertaking. You are always welcome to provide feedback to any of our building committee members or to me. We value the input of the community. Please continue offering our prayer for the building process provided in a previous bulletin article.

Fr. Joe