



# St. Austin Catholic Parish

**Parish Wide Meeting  
Church Renovation Project  
Wed., Oct. 8, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the Church**

## Agenda:

- Opening Prayer & Introduction by Fr. Chuck Kullmann, CSP
- Parish Financial Overview by Ms. Trish Dolese, Finance Council Chair
- Presentation by Jeff Langham and Nathan Wilcox of Sixthriver Architects
- Open forum for questions
- Closing Prayer by Fr. René Constanza, CSP

## Renovation Project Timeline:

### **Summer 2013**

- Property Committee contracted Kincannon Studios for study of church and rectory exterior to address spalling of the limestone façade. Some immediate remediation of dangerously loose stone was performed. The study cost \$27,000.

### **Fall 2013**

- Parish leadership received results of church and rectory exterior study. Determined that stone cladding and anchorage required repair. Immediate action was taken to prevent injury to pedestrians while full research of available options continued through the fall. Full report available at <http://www.staustin.org/facadererepairs>.
- Property Committee formed committee of architectural and construction professionals from within the parish community to research solutions proposed by Kincannon Studios and contact architectural firms regarding a renovation project.
- In light of the exterior study, the Finance Council sought proposals from development firms to ascertain the cost and scope of a capital campaign to address the necessary exterior repairs. They also began communication to increase awareness of our financial situation (<http://www.staustin.org/stateofparish2013>) and began researching fundraising options to reduce our total debt and cover the cost of renovations to the church.

### **Spring 2014**

- Architectural subcommittee of the Property Committee continued to research solutions.
- Finance Council passed fiscal year 2014-2015 budget, including a capital campaign to pay for renovation project and reduce overall parking garage debt in light of the necessary renovations.
- Property Committee sought increase to revenue stream for the parking garage and new tenants for rental properties to reduce the debt load on our operating budget.

### **Summer 2014**

- Property Committee interviewed architects and contracted Sixthriver Architects (<http://www.sixthriver.com/>) to begin design plans for exterior renovation.
- Finance Council interviewed fundraising firms and contracted Steier Group (<http://steiergroup.com/>) to conduct campaign planning study. The study cost \$10,000.

- Pastoral Council formed a Good Shepherd Committee, a group specifically formed to address the concerns and needs of parishioners throughout the planning and execution of the renovation project. They may be contacted at [goodshepherd@staustin.org](mailto:goodshepherd@staustin.org).

### **Fall 2014**

- Sixthriver Architects made their first presentation of possible renovation design schemes to parish leadership.
- Property Committee began discussions of the need for a project manager for the renovation. (This position has not been hired.)
- Steier Group representative Mick Wagoner conducted 71 personal interviews and received 181 survey responses, all analyzed to determine if we should proceed with a capital campaign. Results of the campaign planning study were presented to parish leadership for review and discussion.

### **What's next?**

- Parish leadership will meet with Diocesan leadership to review campaign planning study results, projected budget, and renovation project scope and determine how best to proceed. Anticipate beginning the preparation work for a capital campaign by early November. The campaign should cost approximately \$125,000 plus expenses.
- Sixthriver Architects will review feedback from Property Committee, parish leadership and parish wide meeting and begin to refine design plans.
- Parish input will continue to be solicited by our committees.

### **Considerations for the Scope of the Renovation Project:**

- We need to make our campus safe to all parishioners, visitors, religious education and school children, etc. We can maintain safety barriers and covers, a faster and cheaper solution than renovation, but it will be a stern and unattractive visual statement.
- This is an opportunity to enhance the appearance of the church and address the mold and other cosmetic issues that make the church and rectory façade look dirty as well as choose materials that may be more graffiti resistant or easier to clean.
- A more attractive and inviting exterior will have greater impact on The Drag and could boost our evangelization efforts. A renovation gives us a chance to pull together the look of our buildings along Guadalupe Street and create a common feel for maximum visual impact on The Drag.
- There is an opportunity to remodel and reconfigure our entrances, landscaping and bathrooms to be more inviting and address modern Americans with Disabilities Act compliance. We may be able to improve the side entrances to the church and the route from the garage and parking to the doors of the church.
- We do not have an adequate and convenient space for Children's Liturgy of the Word. In reconfiguring bathrooms and entrances, we have the opportunity to create a space for this on the ground floor of the rectory and renovate the parish nursery space.
- Should we consider installing solar panels?
- If we see the church as a 100 year building but the rectory is not, how does that change our plans?
- How many and which of these items should we prioritize? What we can do depends in part on the success of our capital campaign.