



Pray - Sacrifice - Build Together with God

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

309 S. Stewart, Liberty, Missouri 64068

Phone: (816) 781-4343

Fax: (816) 792-8691

www.stjames-liberty.org

Expansion or New Construction?

Design Team Explains its Recommendation to Build a new Church

SFS Architecture and Huber General Contractor concluded that building a new worship space would be the best option to accommodate future growth at St. James.

Based on town hall meetings with parishioners and meetings with key stakeholders to identify issues, determine needs and prioritize goals, the design team made its recommendation. Among the issues identified, discussed and studied was seating capacity in the sanctuary.

Constructed in 1981, the current 8,200 SF worship space



seats 500. Based on current Parish enrollment and Diocesan projections for future parish growth, a larger worship space seating 1,200 and expandable to 1,500 seats was identified as a need and a high priority. With information gathered during these meetings and from an assessment of existing building conditions, options for providing a 23,000 SF, 1,200-seat worship space (expandable to 1,500) were developed, studied and reviewed with Parish stakeholders.

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From Your Pastor



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

Greetings to you,

We are rapidly approaching the end of summer. School is now in full swing here at St. James, and our capital campaign is set to begin.

An important event in that

campaign is the presentation of the master plan for the new church and renovation of existing structures on Saturday, September 15 at a Town Hall Meeting. **Please plan to attend!**

While this Town Hall Meeting will present an overview of the plan, we have a number of campaign events scheduled to delve into the details of Phase I. Be sure to sign up for one of them to get **your** questions answered, and learn about the Phase I details.

It's important that all parishioners have accurate information about our plans and how they will affect the parish and school.

As always, continue to pray daily for our parish and its mission in our community.

In Christ,

Father Mike Roach

Mark Your Calendar



**Commitment Weekend
November 10-11**

**Pray - Sacrifice - Build
Together with God**

Town Hall Meeting

**Saturday
September 15, 2012**

**Time
9:00 am - 11:00 am**

**Location
Social Hall**

**Details
Join us as we reveal
the Master Plan and
future of St. James**

Campaign Events Schedule

Please plan to attend one of these campaign events. They are your opportunity to hear about the new plans and discuss them with the parish leaders.

PTO Meeting — August 28th (6:50 p.m.)

☎ Dinner Event — September 11th (6:30 p.m.) Social Hall,
Hosted by the Altar Society.

After Mass Event — September 15th (5:00 p.m.) Hosted by the Knights of Columbus,
in conjunction with Spaghetti dinner and Teacher's Pie Auction

After Mass Event — September 16th — after all the Masses
(7:30, 9:15, 11 and 6 pm)) Hosted by Stewardship Committee

Religious Education Parent Meeting — September 16th (9:15 a.m.)

☎ Luncheon Event — September 19th (12:00 p.m.) Social Hall.
Hosted by the Over 50 Group

School Car Line — September 19th (2:00 p.m.)

Religious Education Parent Meeting — September 19th (6:45 p.m.)

☎ Home Event — September 24th (7:00 p.m.)
– Tom & Marcia Capps, 912 Scott Drive, Liberty, MO

☎ Home Event — September 25th (7:00 p.m.)
– Rena Tulipana, Park House 8790 N.E. 80th St., KCMO

☎ Home Event — September 27th (7:00 p.m.)
– Don & Debbie Taylor, 715 Westwoods Dr., Liberty, MO

☎ Home Event — October 1st (7:00 p.m.)
– Gary & Martha Duffin, 9620 N. Arlington, KCMO

☎ Home Event — October 3rd (7:00 p.m.)
– Troy & Marcy Sheeley, Copperleaf Club House, 9011 N. Glenwood Ave., KCMO

☎ Home Event — October 4th (7:00 p.m.)
– John & Janice Brimer, 1569 Merit Lane, Liberty, MO

☎ Please RSVP for these Home Events. There are three ways to respond.

1. Call the parish office at (816) 781-4343
2. E-mail campaign@stjames-liberty.org
3. Go to church website at www.stjames-liberty.org and click on the Campaign Info Link, then click on Events for further info and to RSVP

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These options ranged from renovating and expanding the existing facilities to building entirely new facilities and repurposing existing facilities. It was determined that the existing building was 1/3 the size it needed to be and that expanding the existing facility to create a functional, well-proportioned worship and gathering space of 23,000 SF would require demolition of at least 50 percent of the existing building. The expanded worship space would then be compromised while trying to work around the remaining 4,000 SF.

Based on the evaluation of options developed, it was determined that the most feasible option was to build a new sanctuary and repurpose the existing worship space for other parish needs.

If an acceptable design for a new sanctuary of sufficient size could be imagined, on top of the existing church footprint and within the confines of the surrounding spaces, the cost would be significantly higher than building a new church elsewhere on the parish property.

The added costs would be associated with the demolition and/or modifications required on the existing structures, extensive work in re-purposing a lot of the surrounding spaces to accommodate the new design, disruption of high production labor components, and thus reduced efficiency and economy of scale. There would also be an extended period of time that church activities would need to be held in the gymnasium or possibly off-site.

Other costly trade-offs would

include the need to build additional ancillary spaces that the existing church space could be adapted/used for, the inability to construct a basement under the new and renovated spaces, and severe constraints in physical design alternatives that would severely limit or inhibit liturgical and spiritual design elements.

Proceeding with the plan that includes a new church will:

- Give us flexibility in designing an expandable space for the future.
- Allow us to repurpose the existing facilities.
- Cost us less in both the long and short-term.

Our Campaign Co-Chairs—Ed and Midge Weir

We are Ed and Midge Weir. We are the third of five couples to be



introducing ourselves as the co-chairs of the capital campaign.

We were married at St. Gabriel's Church in 1972, and joined St. James Parish in 1978. We moved from St. Ann's, in Excelsior Springs,

so that we could send our children to a Catholic school. Each of our four children attended St. James School, and all four graduated from St. Pius X High School. Our kids and their spouses have given us thirteen wonderful grandchildren, who make our lives rich and sweet.

We have found our dearest friends through our working, praying and playing together at St. James. When we joined the parish, some of the established families took us under their wings and made us feel so

welcome. These families invited us to join them in their ministries. At the same time, we became very involved in St. James School. Midge found herself volunteering there so often that she obtained a teaching degree and help to open the kindergarten in 1988.

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St. James Catholic Community
309 S. Stewart
Liberty, MO 64068

Town Hall Meeting
Sat. Sept. 15

Our Campaign Co-Chairs—Ed and Midge Weir continued from page 3

Over the years, we have had the privilege of serving God and St. James in these ministries:

Ed has served on the parish council as a member and chairperson, the stewardship Council, the welcoming of new parishioners, the PTO, as well as various planning and building committees. Our involvement in the liturgy has included lecturing, serving as a Eucharistic minister, sewing vestments for Father Mike's ordination, and offertory family. We've had the privilege of working with the young people in our parish.

Teaching confirmation classes, helping with summer Bible school, chaperoning youth group excursions, and participating in school auctions taught us that these young ones are the lively future of our church. We've been involved with outreach programs like cooking and serving in the soup kitchens, preparing and serving funeral dinners, and participating in JustFaith. We have worked to enhance our marriage and those of others by participating in Marriage Encounter. Finally, we have been faithful to God's call to grow his church by working on every building campaign

since 1979. Our absolute favorite parish activity has been our Renew group and the group it has evolved into.

This church family has nurtured us and supported us through many happy times and many difficult times. You prayed with us when we have been in crisis with results that are nothing less than miraculous!

When our baby daughter, Sarah, had serious health problems, multiple surgeries and even blindness, we were surrounded with love, support, food, and prayers...and a miracle was granted.

When our daughter Amy, as a teenager was diagnosed with cancer, we thought our world was falling apart, but this faith community brought meals, transported our children, and again lifted us up in prayer... and another miracle was granted!

A little over three years ago Ed was diagnosed with lung cancer that was already spreading through his body. His prognosis was terrible. But again the prayers began and continued, and he is still here, fighting cancer and setting records...another miracle.

St. James is a powerhouse of prayer! We are so grateful to God for his blessings; blessings that He has sent to us through the intercessions of this faith community.

As you have welcomed and nurtured us, we want to be here to welcome others and nurture them as part of our faith community. We feel honored to be a part of the growth that is happening here. We truly believe that God has fantastic and marvelous plans for our parish; but he needs our hands to carry them out. We've been given the opportunity to build a lasting testament to our faith and love - a new, beautiful, and welcoming church.

We hope that you will join us in making the sacrifices necessary to build our new church.

Our love to you,

Ed and Midge