# St. James Catholic Church

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire. *Luke 3:15* 



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### **Design Team – Many Hands One Goal**

As we move toward installing the many interior design elements for our new church we want to give you more information about



our design team. Almost everyone knows that Daniel Baker, the parish Music and Liturgy Director, is the chair person. However, Danny is part of a team that has been ac-

tively studying the church documents, traveling to locations throughout the United States, and informing themselves for the last three years. Other team members include: Fr. Mike, Sandy Gagnon, Bridget Bagby, Gabino Zavala, and the SFS Architects.

No doubt you recognize Sandy's name from the column that she writes each week in our parish bulletin. In this edition of the New Church News she has contributed to the article about our new Baptismal Font. Bridget Bagby has been responsible for the interiors of many of the B&B theatres in several states. Her knowledge of colors and what works in larges spaces was very helpful for this project. Gabino Zavala may not be as familiar to you. While living in Los Angeles he was heavily involved in the interior design of the 11 story Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels for the Catholic Diocese of Los Angeles. From its ground breaking in 1996 through its completion in 2002 Gabino was hands-on with the project. We have been able to bring his knowledge and experience to bear on our project. If you would like to know more about the Cathedral in

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# Schurch NEWS

#### St. James Catholic Church

#### **OUR EXTERIOR CROSS**

We thought we would share some facts about the Cross above our new Church.

Height = 21 feet Projects = 11 feet above roof Width = 7 feet

Constructed of Aluminum and powder-coated with yellow/gold paint.

It is lit from front and rear



Save The Date Saturday, July 27 - 9:00am

Learn About The Progress Of The New Church

Find Out More About The Upcoming Capital Campaign

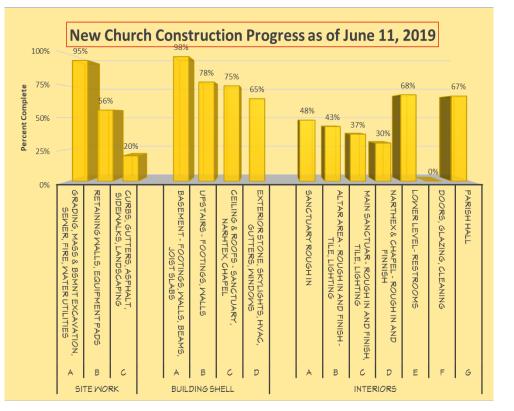
> Opportunity To Ask Questions

#### Welcome New Parishioners

Vicki Cali Wayne & Cecilia Curtis Christian & Meredith Koelliker Tom & Christina O'Brien Matt St John & Libbi Reichert Ericka Saenz Julie Sahlin John & Jamie Siedlik Blake & Abby Smith



*Right:* The cross is in place, shining gold at twilight.





# **The Living Water**

#### Our New Baptismal Font–Much More Than A Water Receptacle

No doubt, many of you have been to Catholic churches where every door opens to a



small, wall-mounted bowl which contains Holy Water. It was placed there so that the faithful upon entering the church could bless themselves with the sign of

the cross. This small gesture was to remind them of their baptism. Just as through one baptism we enter into the body of Jesus, which is the Church, so too before entering the physical church do we remember our baptism and that foundational entrance.

During the Apostolic Age, baptism was administered at the seaside, in streams, or in

pools of water. With the establishment of distinctively Christian places of worship, the font became one of the important fixtures within the church,



not only used for baptism, but also and to preserve the consecrated water. In Eastern churches the font took the form of a pool or cistern (called *kalymbethra* or swimming bath), similar to those found in the public baths, but deep enough to permit total immersion. In the West the Latin term *natatorium* or the term *piscine* which referred to birth and life received from the ritual washing / baptism in the waters, were used. The name *fons* or spring of water was also used and prevails today with our understanding of baptismal water as the living water offered by Christ.



In our new church as you enter the worship space from the spacious narthex two impressive pieces of art will greet you. The 35 foot tall mural

will be the first attention grabber, and the second will be our beautiful baptismal font. It will be placed very close to the doors and stand as an reminder for all who enter of their own baptism into Christ.

We do not have pictures yet of our new Baptismal font but we do have a couple of artistic renderings. As you can see the piece will be large enough for full immersion of adults

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# March NEWS

# The Living Water (con't)

but also have a raised section for infant baptism. It will be 8'8" wide by 9'9" in length in an octagonal shape. It will have a height in an octagonal shape. It will have a height



of 2' for the immersion pool rising to 3'2" at the upper font bowl. This upper font bowl will have an infinity edge allowing the water to spill

into the immersion bowl. This will allow for child baptisms and for the faithful to bless themselves. A recirculating pump will keep the water constantly flowing. The exterior of the piece will be made of marble. The interior will be a combination of marble and beautiful iridescent blue tile which will lend its natural glow to the water. On the floor of the immersion pool will be a marble medallion in the shape of a sea shell. We chose this as a way to remember our patron St. James who was a fisherman by trade before receiving his apostolic calling.

Just as the Transfiguration Mural depicts the Water of Life emanating from Christ flowing down the mountainside into a river at the base of the mural so too, does that same water symbolically flow into our Baptismal Font and into our lives if we immerse ourselves in it.

# The Design Team (con't)



Interior View of the Cathedral of Our Lady of Angels

Los Angeles go to <u>www.olacathedral.org</u>. We are very lucky to have Gabino on the team.

Rounding out the team are the architects at SFS. Their guidance in striking that delicate balance between form and function is critical. Additionally they have designed sev-

eral Catholic Churches and know what is acceptable and practical. Finally, Fr. Mike has the ultimate



authority for approval of all design elements. Fr. Mike's guidance is both necessary and appreciated. We are very grateful to this team for their hard work in bringing artistry into our lives.

## **Dedication Of Our New Church - October 19**

