

# St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

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## BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE “OLD CHURCH BUILDING STEERING COMMITTEE” MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2017

We are still dealing with three sets of decisions:

- 1) What will we do with the church building of 1941
- 2) What will we do with the church building of 1959
- 3) What, if anything, will we do to remodel the 1980's parish center/parish hall

### 1. Concerning question one: The fate of the original church of 1941

The steering committee has made a firm recommendation that this building be removed as quickly as feasible. After consulting with the Parish Finance Council and Parish Pastoral Council, Fr. Bob has accepted this recommendation. Our next step is to draw up a proposal with budget and send it to the Diocesan Finance Council for approval.

We hope to submit our proposal by the deadline of **August 1, 2017** to be on the agenda of the DFC meeting of August 8.

Three bids have been reviewed, one chosen. Demolition of the original church, re-facing the remaining façade and redoing the parking lot, lawn and sidewalk will cost a maximum of \$150,000.

With the demolition of this building, we will lose:

- Kolbe Hall multi-purpose meeting room
- High school youth center incl. prayer room
- 5 classrooms (3 upstairs, 2 downstairs)

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# MEMO

## **2. Concerning question two: The fate of the Butler Building church of 1959**

The steering committee is not yet ready to make a recommendation here; we are, however, developing a consensus that

- 1) the building will be remodeled into a multi-purpose, large area meeting hall;
- 2) it will not be torn down; and
- 3) it will not be permanently divided up into small rooms (like a school house).

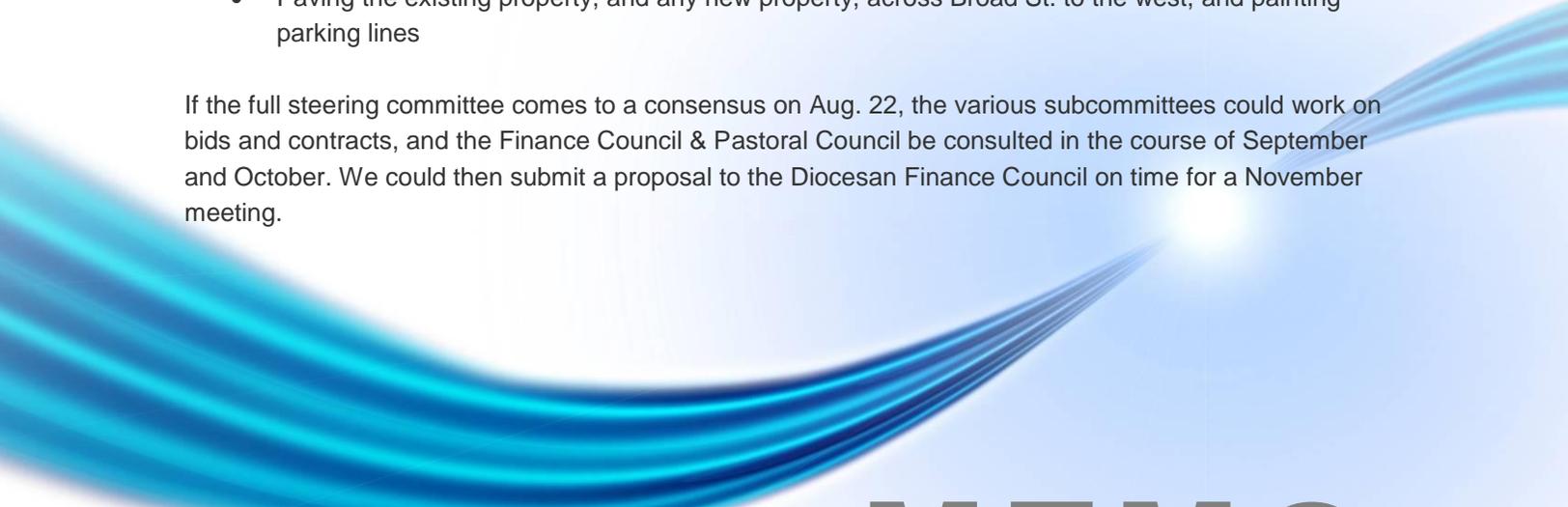
We are looking at a “middle of the road” solution. That is, we looked at a proposal to do a bare minimum of fix-up/clean-up for around \$100,000; we decided that this was too minimalistic. We considered a luxury model renovation costing millions and decided that this was unnecessary. So we are looking at a solution in the \$400,000 to \$800,000 range.

Dan Caruso has assembled a number of good ideas. We are still in the brainstorming phase, but we are coming close to closing this phase and producing a concrete proposal. Fr. Bob hopes that at the steering committee meeting of August 22, 2017, we can move to a concrete recommendation.

Among the ideas still under consideration (this list is not definitive):

- A remake of the east end (back end) of the building
- New, handicapped accessible restrooms
- A new, modern kitchen
- Perhaps a youth/young adult center (“The Loft”) above the new kitchen?
- New lighting
- Should there be a gymnastic-grade floor?
- Should there be new interior walls and ceiling, or should we retain the present high ceiling?
- Extending the west end (front end) to add a new entrance way, thereby enlarging the interior
- Possible acquisition of new property across Broad St. to the south, for parking
- Paving the existing property, and any new property, across Broad St. to the west, and painting parking lines

If the full steering committee comes to a consensus on Aug. 22, the various subcommittees could work on bids and contracts, and the Finance Council & Pastoral Council be consulted in the course of September and October. We could then submit a proposal to the Diocesan Finance Council on time for a November meeting.



# MEMO

### 3. Concerning question three: the fate of the parish center/parish hall

The steering committee is further away from a consensus on this issue. We are very much still brainstorming. We *seem* to be moving in the direction of recommending a minimal intervention, in the \$100,000-\$200,000 range. This might include, but is not limited to:

- Remodeling the present kitchen, removing the old-and-dying appliances and replacing them with much smaller ones
- Perhaps adding a new handicapped accessible restroom
- Perhaps adding articulated wall dividers (accordion-fold dividers), either solid or fabric
- Or perhaps, instead, adding permanent dividing walls
- Turning the north-end niche into a small classroom/meeting room
- Declaring the existing parish hall to be the “New Kolbe Room”, and giving the Knights of Columbus, A & R Society, AA group etc. some kind of permanent display area
- The possibility of moving the daily Mass chapel to an area in the new church and re-purposing the present quotidian chapel as a youth center or classroom area was discussed – but this does not seem feasible

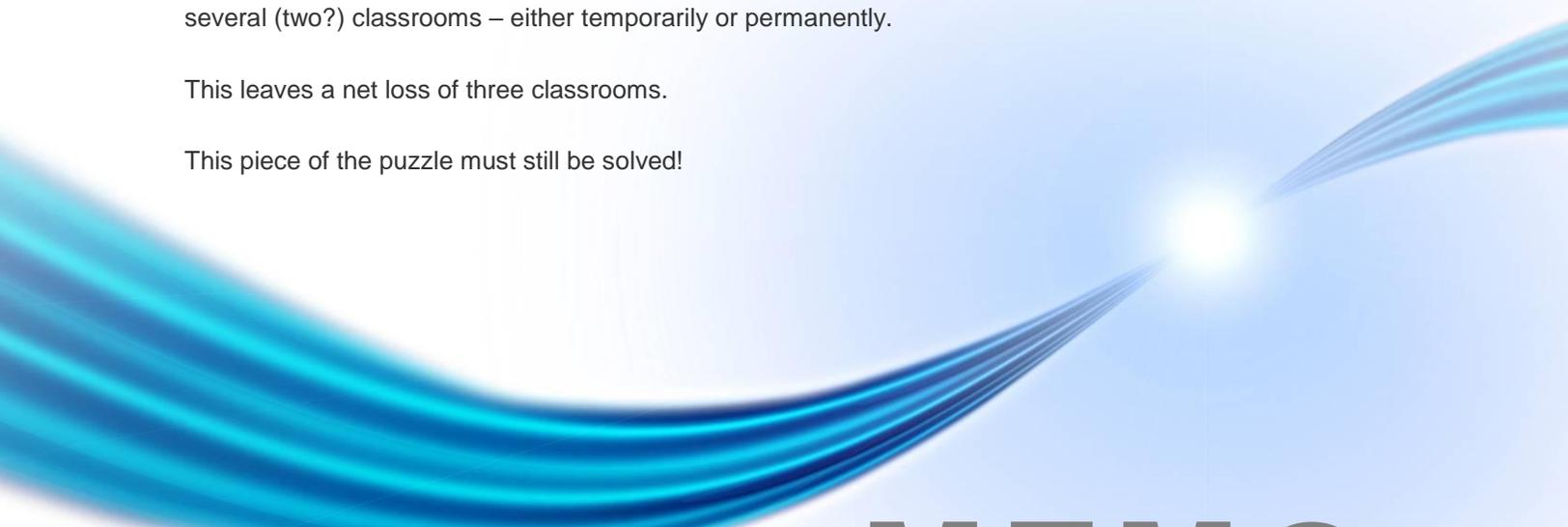
Fr. Bob does not believe that we will have come to a consensus about this by August 22. He would *like* to set a deadline of October for this consensus – but it is much better to take our time and do it right than to meet arbitrary deadlines and regret our decision for the next 20 years.

#### Outstanding problems

In part 1 above, I mentioned the spaces we will lose when we tear down the church building of 1941. I envision the present parish hall becoming a new Kolbe Hall and meeting those needs just fine. Cara Molyet likes the idea of a youth/young adult center in a loft in the renovated “big hall” – this would replace the present youth center. In our discussions, we have talked about dividing the basement parish hall into several (two?) classrooms – either temporarily or permanently.

This leaves a net loss of three classrooms.

This piece of the puzzle must still be solved!



# MEMO

## **Immediate Future**

August 1, 2017 – deadline for Proposal 1 to be sent to the Diocesan Finance Council

August 22 – next meeting of the steering committee

October 2017 – can we reach a consensus regarding Proposal 3?

November 1, 2017 – proposed deadline for sending Proposal 2 to the Diocesan Finance Council

February 1, 2018 – latest proposed deadline for sending Proposal 3 to the DFC

Winter 2017/2018 – fund-raising campaign

The Diocesan Office of Development reminds us that, once we start fund-raising, the ad hoc steering committee is to be dissolved and new committees established, namely 1) a Building Project Committee and 2) a Fund-raising Committee. Some members of the steering committee may serve on the one or the other of these new committees, but it should be clear to the parish that these are new committees.

**Jobs, missions, assignments and great quests** – we agreed that as details crop up, Fr. Bob and/or Katie will send e-mails asking for volunteers to do various things.

**NEXT MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.**

**NEXT PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE PARISH: Saturday, August 26, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.**

*friar Bob Showers OFM Conv.*

*22 June 2017*

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### **ONE OTHER NOTE:**

When the big hall (1959 church) is renovated, I plan to ask to have it renamed “Friar Andrew Maas Hall”. Fr. Andrew was pastor of St. Anthony’s 1936-1939 and again 1948-1957. Although friar Dunstan Bryan was pastor when the “new old church” was dedicated, it was Fr. Andrew who had led the preparations. He was an influential pastor here for a dozen years but nothing is named after him!

I might also ask us to consider renaming the remodeled basement parish hall “Friar Clement Orth Hall”. Fr. Clem chose the name “St. Anthony of Padua Parish” and was the first Franciscan to be pastor here, in 1931.

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