

NEW RECTORY OVERVIEW AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Overview: To construct a new rectory that is located at the Holy Family Church site in proximity to the parish offices and the “hub” of activity for the Fond du Lac Catholic community.

The proposed rectory is a new 8,000 sq. ft. building that will house up to five priests serving Holy Family and will have additional space for a guest priest or seminarian intern.

The existing rectories are burdened with multiple issues including needing to replace boilers, no central air, failing roofs, worn carpet and furniture, and windows that need to be replaced.

This proposed rectory should complement the existing facilities at the Holy Family Church site by utilizing materials and designs that are similar to the current church structure. The priests will share a kitchen, great room, finished basement, basement storage and outdoor patio. The new rectory will also include a shared meeting room for small group meetings and a chapel for mass and communal prayer for priests and guests.

Other Considerations:

- Design a rectory that would attract priests looking for placement. This includes a space that provides both aspects of private and communal living.
- Build a rectory that is large enough to meet the needs of the current and future priests of Holy Family and even priests serving in the surrounding area. The new rectory will be designed with the possibility of serving as home to senior priests, as well, so careful consideration will be made to ensure accessibility

How much money will we need to raise?

We seek to raise an additional \$1.4 million to construct a new rectory on our existing Holy Family Church site. So far, \$400,000 has been donated, unsolicited.

Through the generosity of our benefactors, the 4-acre plot of land to the south of the Church was acquired in December 2020 and has been identified as the best location for the new rectory.

What will happen to the old rectory buildings?

The current plan would be to sell the three existing rectory buildings that are currently owned by the parish. The rectory buildings at Sacred Heart, St. Peter, and Our Risen Savior are in need of substantial repairs. The money raised from the sale of these properties will be put towards the cost of constructing the new rectory.

What is all included in the new rectory building?

The new rectory building will be constructed utilizing the latest building and construction techniques that will ensure the rectory will be a building that can stand the test of time. The new rectory will have both private and public space to accommodate five priests. The new rectory will have room for the priests to accommodate overnight guests like seminarians and visiting priests. The entire facility will be handicap accessible and each priest in residence will have his own private area. The priests will share a kitchen, great room, finished basement, basement storage and outdoor patio. The new rectory will also include a shared meeting room for small group meetings and a chapel for mass and communal prayer for the priests.

Why is the cost to construct this new rectory so high?

New construction costs have risen significantly over the past 10 years. Material costs and the lack of skilled labor workers are driving the cost of construction to levels never seen before. To ensure that the new rectory fits well within the existing church campus, it needs to be constructed utilizing materials that will complement the existing church building. This includes stonework and other industrial grade materials that will ensure that the new rectory will be a suitable place for the entire community to utilize and for our priests to call home. Attention must also be given to ensure that each priest living in the rectory will have some private space to call his own. This means that privacy walls, individual suites that include a private bathroom/shower and closet also contribute to the increased cost of the project.

How will we be able to fund the construction of a new rectory?

As of January 2020, over \$400,000 has been raised/pledged to construct a new rectory on our Holy Family Church site. The remaining \$1.4 million can be supported with donations and the sale of the current rectories. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee requires that at least ½ of the project total cost be raised before construction can begin. Once our pledge goal is reached and ½ of the balance is in the bank, we will be able to break ground by obtaining a construction loan through a local lender. That loan will then be paid off as pledge money is collected throughout the next few years.

What is the condition of the rectories we currently own?

At one point in time all three of our rectory buildings were constructed with a lot of love. Each of the unique rectories was considered elegant and stately homes. Many of our priests who served our communities called these buildings home. Today, 75-100 years after they were constructed, the buildings are showing their age. Some of the very costly problems we are currently experiencing include leaky roofs, cracked ceilings, broken heating systems, drafty windows, poor insulation, and crumbling foundations. Other problems are too numerous to list but it is estimated that to repair each rectory to livable conditions would cost upwards of \$500,000. And even after that is done, the old buildings still do not meet the current or future needs of a rectory that can house our entire priest team on one site.

Do we have other facility needs?

Yes. Facility maintenance and upkeep continues to be a priority for our parish community. As facility needs arise at each of our six sites, the Facilities and Maintenance Committee in consultation with the Pastoral and Finance Councils prioritize the projects that come up based on need. At this point in time, it is necessary to invest in a new rectory so that we do not continue to invest in old, aging rectories that no longer serve the needs of our priest team or parish.

Who will oversee this process?

The parish pastor with the assistance of a Holy Family Rectory Committee will oversee every aspect of this project. The Rectory Committee was formed at the request of the Pastoral and Finance Councils who are charged with representing the entire parish and managing the finances of our community. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee Building Commission will assist the parish in overseeing the project and cooperates with the Holy Family Rectory Committee to see the project through to completion.

How can I help?

You can start by praying every day for our parish. Then we would ask that you prayerfully consider how you can generously support this project. You can support this project by encouraging others to participate and to consider how they may contribute to the project financially or by sharing their skills that may help complete this project.