

## **Build or Not Update** **Miscellaneous Issues**

**-Choir/Music Space** — Currently, weekly choir practice is held in the church; however, warm-up before each Sunday Mass must be held downstairs in the Daily Mass Chapel. Music files, books, folders, instruments, music stands, etc. are all currently stored in the small, cramped space behind the Altar (Sacristy), or in the music area of the church. The choir space in the church is itself problematic: it is awkwardly designed and divided, which presents difficulties for the musicians to function in; it is the locus of “traffic jams”; and it partially blocks the view of the altar for people in the pews nearest the choir. Also, space for the handbell choir or other instrumentalists is lacking. The organ is an outdated, pre-digital (analogue) instrument, which, although it has served us adequately, is inordinately large and awkwardly positioned, and produces sound of very poor quality. If expanding or improving the worship space is undertaken, ideally, we would like to consider redesigning/constructing the music area, replacing the organ, and adding a “choir room” big enough (and sufficiently soundproofed) to hold weekly practices and warm-ups before Mass, and having more efficient and accessible storage space.

**-CLOW** — The space for Children’s Liturgy of the Word is an area of concern. Children and ministers move up and down the stairs to and from the Daily Chapel, which detracts from their liturgy, and presents some accessibility and safety concerns. Adding a space for CLOW more proximate to the main worship space (as for the choir) would be quite helpful for this ministry.

**-Preparation Room / Sacristy** — The original “Sacristy” of the church is the space behind the Altar, where the priest and altar servers would vest and process in and out of for Mass. It is where the sacred vessels, altar linens, and various liturgical supplies are kept and where the Sacramentarium (basin and drain that goes directly into the ground) is located. Since it is more fitting that the entrance procession come down the center aisle, the utility room at the back of church was converted to the “Preparation Room.” It is an adequate space for the priest and servers to vest and prepare for the liturgy. However, it is also the place where all the liturgical ministers check in and gather to pray before Mass, so the room is very crowded. Considering this and all the things we use this tiny room for, it would be very helpful to have a larger room. One possible remedy is to use the former Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Other solutions could be considered with plans for expansion or redesign of the Narthex.

**-Quilters** — The walk-in basement of the Wayland office had been renovated to be a relatively large meeting space with an improved kitchen and restroom. The quilters use about half of the space, where there is room to set up and protect the quilt from week to week, and which contains an adequate closet for their supplies. If conflicts arise because the room is needed more often by other groups, or if for any other reason the room should no longer be available for them, then a new *dedicated* space would have to be provided.

**-Storage Space** — Short everywhere on the campus! We have things tucked and crammed into a lot of small areas, many of which, like the furnace/HVAC and electrical/utility rooms in the church basement, should be kept clear of clutter. Also, the area where the portable walls are stored has become overpacked storage space. Racks of chairs and tables, etc., often need to be moved out of the way before the portable walls can be set up or put away. The recently built storage shed on the northwest side of the church is full, although it could be used more efficiently if shelving and cabinets were built/installed, as originally planned.... Generally, things are scattered about the campus in any free space found in the *two* office buildings (a source of difficulty for the parish staff, and confusion for parishioners, visitors, and even the USPS) and the various garages and sheds.

*St. Jerome Build or Not Committee*