



January 13, 2016

Dear Blessed Trinity Parishioner: :

**I write to invite you to an important conversation with our MAINTAINRENEWIMAGINE Architect, Mr. Carl Posewitz on **SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2016 FOLLOWING THE 10:00 AM MASS.** At this gathering Mr. Posewitz will explore the potentials envisioned in the “Site Visit Report.” The needs and ideas outlined in that document will be presented via digitally generated design possibilities. The opportunity for discussion, questions and suggestions will be provided. This is the beginning of an ongoing dialogue and collaboration with all parishioners regarding the implementation of the “Site Visit Report.”**

It is important to review the long process in which we have been engaged thus far.

Blessed Trinity Finance and Pastoral Councils have been engaged in discussions regarding maintenance and other needs in our church facilities since 2012. Both councils determined in October 2014 to invite Mr. Ken Griesemer, a Church liturgical and design consultant to assist us in determining how to effectively meet the many long standing and developing needs in our Church building. The parish pastoral and finance councils chose not to proceed with some obvious maintenance needs (such as church lighting, painting, etc.,) without first having an overall review of the entire building regarding both short term and long term needs. The councils also determined to seek an evaluation of our worship space: what needs to be maintained, improved, changed, and enhanced? How can the church building be made more accessible? How can the parish continue to develop the arts in our worship space (font, Marian shrine, liturgical furnishings, art glass, etc.)? With those concerns and goals in mind, Mr. Griesemer spent a day touring the building, evaluating various elements of the space in light of our concerns. At the end of the day parish leadership (pastoral and finance councils and parish staff) gathered to participate in a conversation with Mr. Griesemer. He presented his ideas and evaluation of the church building and heard concerns and ideas expressed by those participating.

In November 2014 he provided an extensive “**Site Visit Report.**” That report was published and made available to the parish in February 2015 (both in hard copy form and on the parish website). All parishioners were invited to a gathering on April 27, 2015 for a complete presentation of the “Site Visit Report.” Parishioner response to the report at that meeting was both positive and enthusiastic.

In May 2015, the Finance Council, Fr. Hislop and S. Mary Jo, met with the Diocese of Helena Building Committee and Bishop Thomas to present the "Site Visit Report." The Committee and Bishop Thomas approved our request to proceed, which included the replacement of the heating and air conditioning system in both church and parish house, and the resurfacing of the parking lot (these projects have been completed). The Diocese also approved our proposal to engage a Lighting Engineer and a Project Architect. We have engaged Mr. Larry Palmer, DC Engineering and Mr. Carl Posewitz of Paradigm V2 Architects.

In September 2015, with the recommendation and approval of the Pastoral Council, I appointed a "Strategic Planning Team" consisting of those persons who, at the April 2015 full parish gathering, expressed an interest and willingness to serve on this team. The team has met four times (the agenda and minutes of each meeting is available on the parish website).

**THE CONVERSATION CONTINUES ON SUNDAY JANUARY 24 FOLLOWING THE 10:00 AM MASS, WHEN MR. POSEWITZ WILL HELP US "VISUALIZE" THE POSSIBILITIES BASED ON THE 2014 "SITE VISIT REPORT."**

We continue to move forward inspired by the words prayed over this house for the Church when it was dedicated on September 19, 1988:

*Father in heaven, source of holiness and true purpose,  
it is right that we praise and glorify your name.  
For today we come before you,  
to dedicate to your lasting service this house of prayer, this temple of worship,  
this home in which we are nourished by your word and your sacraments.  
Here is reflected the mystery of the Church.  
Here may your children gathered around your altar, celebrate the memorial of the Paschal Lamb,  
and be fed at the table of Christ's word and Christ's body.  
Here may prayer, the Church's banquet,  
resound through heaven and earth as a plea for the world's salvation.  
Here may the poor find justice, the victims of oppression, true freedom.  
From here may the whole world clothed in the dignity of the children of God,  
enter with gladness your city of peace.*

May God's blessing, the vision of the Holy Spirit, and the love of Christ be with us as we continue to build this "House for the Church."

Sincerely,



Father Ed Hislop  
Pastor

**STRATEGIC PLANNING TEAM:**

David Neu, Marilyn Rodriguez, Rita O'Neill, Betty Chrestenson, Ruth Licitra, Joe Licitra, Joe Mussulman, Joan Dodge, Marge Nordin, Dale Barnum, Jim McDonald, Doug Glevanik, Pat Wegner, Barb Dryden, Deacon Ron Butler, S. Mary Jo Quinn, Fr. Hislop

**Remember to visit your parish website,  
[blessedtrinitymissoula.org](http://blessedtrinitymissoula.org)  
Click on the MAINTAINRENEWIMAGINE link.**

