



October 2021

## Our Lady of Lourdes Renovation Update

Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes,

We would like to give you an update regarding the status of renovation projects that we previously communicated in August.

### Replacement of the 25-year-old cooling system:

- A contract has been signed to replace the condenser and air handler.
- This system will be more efficient, have improved controls, and will be quieter and easier to maintain.
- A donation has been received to pay for this system.

### Audiovisual system upgrade:

- A contract has been signed to upgrade the sound system and add a video camera.
- The system will be of higher quality, is able to be controlled remotely and has features to assist the hearing impaired.
- Enhanced video capabilities will allow for Masses, weddings, and funerals to be viewed remotely.
- The dining room will have a sound system through which Mass can be heard. Speakers at events in the dining room will also be able to use the system.
- A video monitor in the dining room will allow for Mass to be viewed there. It can also be used for faith formation activities.
- A donation has been received to pay for this system.

### Repair, protection, and addition of stained-glass windows:

This is the next phase of the renovation project. We need to protect our windows to preserve them.

- We have wood rot on frames, broken glass panels and lead framing that need repair.
- Three stained glass window companies have visited Our Lady of Lourdes, evaluated our stain glass windows, and submitted proposals.
- The Finance Committee is in the process of evaluating the firms and their proposals.
- In addition to repairing and protecting our current windows, other considerations include:
  - Should we return windows to the east wall of the church on either side of the altar where they were originally located?

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111 West Marshall Street | Rice Lake, WI | 54868  
(715) 234-2032 | stjosephricelake.org

**Continued...Repair, protection, and addition of stained-glass windows:**

- Should we replace frosted glass windows on the west (street) side of the church with stained glass windows? They could be backlit and enhance the beauty of the church from the street.
- Should we replace the four large stained-glass windows in the west part of the sanctuary (two each on the north and south sides) that are of a different style and were probably installed at a later date than the remaining stained-glass windows in the church? We could replicate the original window style and replace them so all windows in the sanctuary would have the same style.

**Enhancement of the sanctuary:**

This will be the last phase of the renovation project.

- This includes consideration of lighting system upgrades, relocation of the tabernacle, repair of ceiling damage, and repainting.
- There are many options and decisions to be made so this will take some time to work through.

**We appreciate the input we have received from parishioners thus far and we look forward to your continued input, prayers and support as we move forward!**

To share your input, please email or contact Doug Raether at [draether@charter.net](mailto:draether@charter.net) or 715-296-5065. Your input will be shared with the Finance Council.

The Finance Council

*Rob Buehler, Ron DeRousseau, Steve Fisher, Doug Raether, Rudy Walz*

*Father Ed Anderson, Father Adam Laski, Aaron Hendricks*