



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

Name
Address
City, State, Zip

August 14, 2022

Dear ,

"One thing I ask of the Lord; this I seek: To dwell in the Lord's house all the days of my life, to gaze on the Lord's beauty, to visit his temple." (Psalm 27:4) As Catholics, we believe that the Eucharist is the "source and summit of the Christian life." (LG 11) The tabernacle "should be in the part of the church that is prominent, conspicuous, beautifully decorated, and suitable for prayer." (Canon 938)

Various members of the St. Joseph Catholic Church community have regularly expressed the desire to place the Eucharist reserved in the tabernacle in the heart of our worship space. This move would help us to orient and focus our worship on Jesus in the Holy Eucharist at every Mass in a concrete and visible way. Since 2018, a committee of parish members have been meeting regularly to discuss the enhancement of the church. This committee, the Enhancement Committee, is at a point where they need parish-wide and community input on this worship space.

We have invested a lot of time into this project. Here are some of the steps that have been taken:

- We have consulted with multiple church art and architectural firms. They have provided us with:
 - Sound principles for organizing our liturgical space to bring forth the meaning and beauty of the Eucharist
 - Multiple renderings (images) which have provided us with vision for the sacred space
- We have visited other churches which match our architectural style that have undergone recent liturgical renovations
- We have researched what St. Joseph has looked like since its current building origin in 1908
- Several offers have been made of time and labor to support this project from within the parish community

Other needs that have been considered:

- We need a fitting, confidential and professional location for the sacrament of confession. If the tabernacle moves to the heart of worship, the current tabernacle location could be repurposed.
- The possibility of relocating the adoration chapel
- Setting aside a dedicated space in the church for the musicians/choir
- The possibility of adding an altar rail to our sanctuary space

Our current church offers a lot of possibility for artistic development. ***Our goal for this project is to offer beauty with noble simplicity in the sanctuary space.*** This means not adding a showy amount of detail but instead clearly focusing our attention on the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. *Continued on back...*



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In summary, we are inviting you to provide input on three artistic renderings that depict possible visions for what our sanctuary *could* look like. In all options, the tabernacle is shown at the heart of the sanctuary. **These options for input are:**

1. A painted mural behind the altar
2. A reredos (which is a wooden backdrop and also houses the tabernacle)
3. Or an option with both the mural and reredos

Please review the options included and submit your input to the cluster office or in the box located in the narthex at St. Joseph. If you have any questions about this project, please contact Rick Vesper at 715-651-1096.

Sincerely,

The Enhancement Committee

Rick Vesper, Sue W, Elizabeth Johnson, Jeff Pierce, Kelly Orr, Jack Haines, Rob White, Father Ed Anderson, Father Adam Laski



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St. Joseph Church Enhancement Survey Form

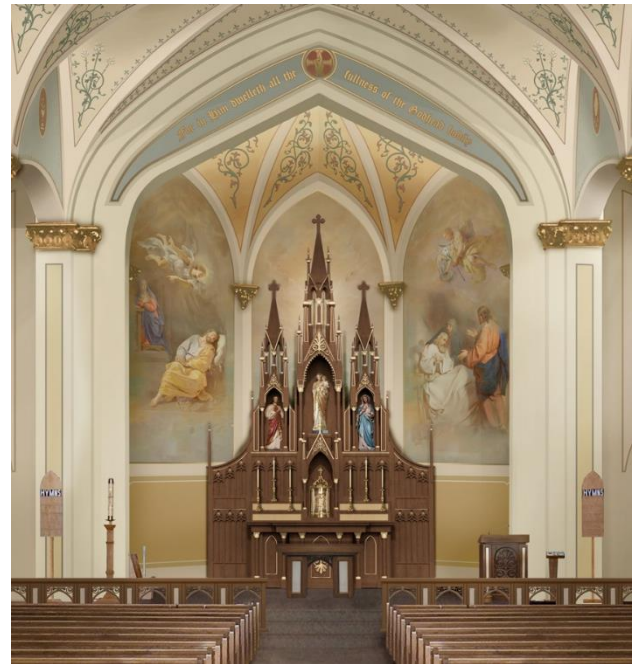
Please note your preference by putting an “x” in the box next to the option you prefer. Please keep in mind that these are sample images only to provide a “look and feel” for a painted mural OR a reredos. The exact mural or style of reredos (including arrangement of statues and crucifix) will be decided at a later date.

Forms can be turned in at the cluster administration office (111 West Marshall St. Rice Lake, WI 54868) or in the box in the St. Joseph Church narthex.

OPTION 1: A painted mural behind the altar (Artistic Credit – Conrad Schmitt Studios, Inc.)



Option 2: A reredos WITHOUT murals (which is a wooden backdrop and also houses the tabernacle)



Option 3: Both the mural and reredos together. (This is pictured as option 2.)

Please use this space to add any other comments / input: