



St. John the Evangelist Parish

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April 14, 2016

To the Choir and Musicians of St. John the Evangelist Parish:

On behalf of the entire Parish Pastoral Council, we wish to thank you for your attendance at the meeting on April 13 2016, where we discussed the project to relocate the choir from the choir loft to the front of the church. It is our sincere hope that the presentation by Parish Pastoral Council provided you with further information and insight as to why we embarked upon this project last year. We hope that it was helpful and reaffirmed the value of your volunteer work to this parish.

Please be assured that we all listened intently to everything you had to say. We can only assume that some of the passion displayed came from your strong dedication to what you do. We know that there is a strong sense of camaraderie among you. We hope that this spirit continues to live on among the group, and differences in opinion among you does not cause any strife.

Parish Council took the time to carefully consider all you had to say. We have had in-depth discussion about your viewpoints, as well as options, for modifying our plans. We have also had open and honest dialogue about this project. After discussion and careful deliberation, Parish Pastoral Council has decided unanimously that the choir relocation project should proceed on a trial basis. We remain firm in our belief that we need to give this a try. The value of a trial is that it will demonstrate to us all, the benefits and disadvantages of being downstairs, that none of us has anticipated. The target date to begin the trial is the weekend of May 13-14, 2016. We anticipate a period of approximately 2 months, with an evaluation about mid-way through and at the end. We hope all of you, along with the parishioners, will assist us with the evaluation process.

We are aware that this will not be welcomed news to some of you. We respect everyone's right to their opinion, and hope that those of you who do not want to support the trial allow others their freedom to do so. The more participants entering the trial period in good faith, the more rounded the evaluation will be.

It will take a couple of weeks for parishioners and choir to settle in to the new reality. Like anything, we will all be disoriented while out of our comfort zone. After settling in, we then can feel the new area out; make the best of it; and then be more able to evaluate. We believe the trial should be given a fair opportunity. This is not about winning or losing, succeeding or failing. It is about trying on for size...and discovering.

On behalf of Parish Pastoral Council,

Father James Ketzler
Pastor
Council

Judy Chaperon
Chairperson, Parish Pastoral