

November 2017

GATHER & GROW

Facilities Master Plan

St. Mary Parish
Ridgefield, CT

Our Clergy

Msgr. Laurence R.
Bronkiewicz, S.T.D.
Pastor

Fr. Sean Kulacz
Parochial Vicar

Deacon
Jerry Lambert

Deacon
Robert Salvestrini



THE ROAD TO “GATHER & GROW”

During our 2010 strategic planning process, the idea of building a new Church or expanding our existing Church surfaced. After a very extensive Parish Survey and much thought from our Master Plan Team, a local architectural firm developed several options for us to accomplish our expansion goals. We then conducted a feasibility study. What surfaced was a great desire of many to keep our existing Church. More consultation and thinking followed, and after a prayerful discernment process, I decided against building a new church and to defer its expansion as well for two key reasons:

1. Parishioner lack of interest in a new church on a new site
2. Challenge of financing overall project

With that in mind, but still in need of refurbishing and updating our 121-year-old church, we present **Gather & Grow**, a new plan, the first phase of which requires no fundraising. We have outlined its two phases below along with a timeline for this exciting project. All your suggestions were appreciated and considered, and I am grateful.

Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz
Pastor

1881

Parish Founded

1896

Original Church Built

3,050

Number of Families

251

School Enrollment

7

Weekend Masses

350

Church
Seating Capacity

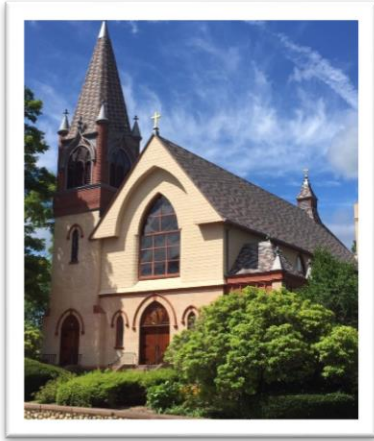
400

Parish Hall
Seating Capacity

923

Religious Education

OUR NEW PLAN - GATHER & GROW



Phase I (2018-2019)

- Refresh interior of our existing Church
- Add Community Gathering/Meeting Space to our Church

Primary Source of Funding: Sale of Parish rental properties

Phase II (5 years and beyond)

- Expand our Church
 - Increase seating from 350 to 600/700
 - Add Adoration Chapel
 - New Sacristy

Source of Funding: Future fundraising campaign

Brooks & Falotico Associates is an award-winning residential architecture and design firm that designed the architectural plans for "GATHER & GROW." brooksandfalotico.com

PHASE I – A CLOSER LOOK



REFRESH INTERIOR OF CHURCH

Given our Church's age, (dedicated in 1896) and the use it gets, there are many things that need to be addressed in order to refresh the building.

Main Body of Church

- New Pews and Kneelers
- New Floor and Carpeting or Tile
- Re-stain Woodwork on Side Walls
- Painting (options to add color being explored)
- Move Baptismal Font to Gathering Space

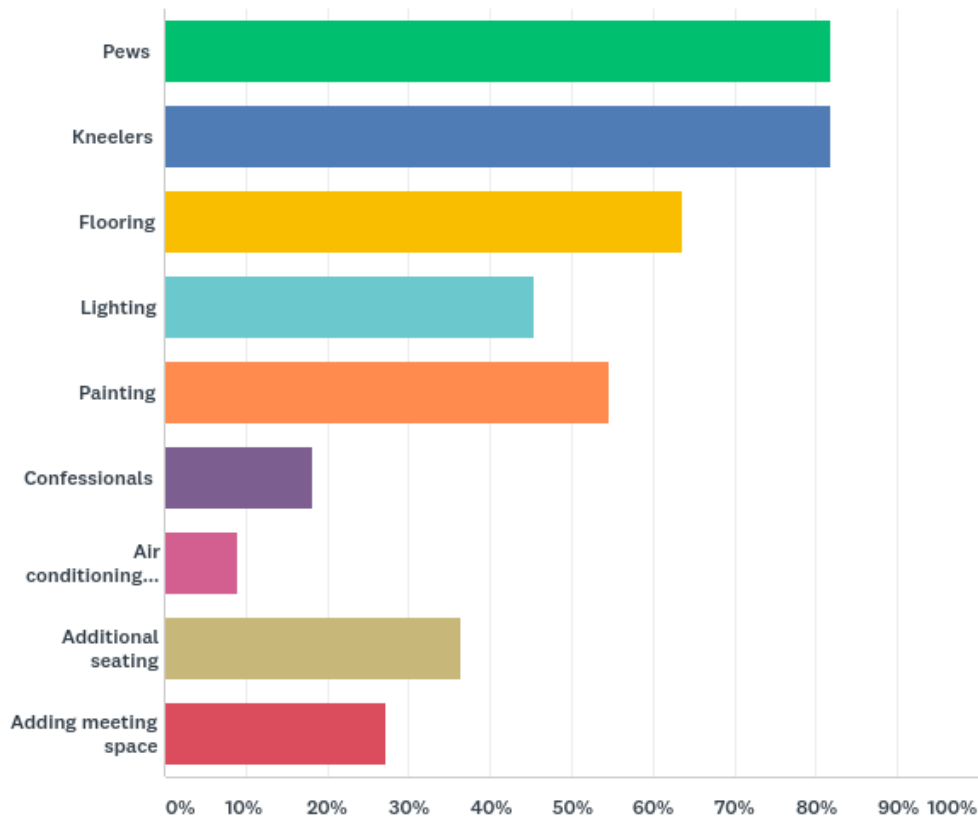
- Improve Walking Area in Front of Sanctuary
- Improve Sacristy
- New Confessionals
- New Doors at Front and Side Entrances
- Upgrade Vestibules in Back and Side Entrances
- Remove Existing Confessional Boxes

Other

- New Organ
- Upgrade Lighting and Sound Systems
- Quality Landscaping in Front of Church
- Improved Safety / Security / Parking

We reached out to you, our Parishioners, to ask what you would most like to see as we refurbish our Church. Thank you to all who weighed in via our online Church Refurbish Suggestion Box. We appreciate the feedback! To the left are the results.

Parishioner Feedback





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ADD GATHERING/MEETING SPACE

A main gathering space will help us gather, meet, and welcome new members to our Parish Family. Uses include:

- Social Gatherings for Community and Fellowship
- Coffee After Mass
- After Event Gatherings: Baptisms, Funerals, Wedding Rehearsals, etc.
- Crying Room for Families with Small Children
- Meeting Space for Ministries & Scripture Studies
- Pastoral and Finance Council Meetings
- Speaker Events (seating for 100)

TIMETABLE: GATHER & GROW

Activity	2017	2018				2019				2020			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Church Project		Getting Ready				Implementation							
* Town Hall Meeting	■												
* Engineering Drawings	■												
* Architecture Drawings	■	■											
* Town Permits		■	■										
* Out to Bid			■										
* Diocesan Approvals		■	■	■									
-- Sacred Arts		■	■	■									
-- Building			■	■	■								
-- Financial					■	■							
*Construction						■	■	■					
-- Church						■	■	■					
-- Gathering Space							■	■	■				
Sale of Properties		■	■	■	■								

Go to www.smcr.org for FAQs and more architectural renderings.

