

# Building Project Status Update

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Now that Autumn is upon us and most have returned from summer vacations we want to update you on the various aspects of the New Church building project. We are pleased to report that the project is moving forward as expected and we are on track for breaking ground in November of 2015. As of September 7, 2014, 838 parishioners have pledged an average amount just over \$3,600 and we have \$5.64M designated for the project. **This is almost 90% to our goal of \$6.37M.** We're not quite there yet, but are pleased to report that new pledges still continue to come in each month!

Thank you to all who have pledged, who have donated without pledging, and who have prayed for our success. Your generosity and support has allowed us to proceed forward.

The Diocese approved our project in April and since then we have taken a number of important steps. We have entered into an agreement with the project architect, The Kerns Group Architects. Working with the team at Kerns, we have established a schedule and are working toward some key milestones. One of the first milestones was to meet with the Town of Clifton Park Planning Department to review the plans with them and get their input. We hired an engineering firm, Clark Engineering, to help guide us through the permit submittal process. Thomas Field a Senior Associate at Clark, and Sean Reilly from the Kerns Group Architects were with us at this preliminary meeting with the Town Planning Director and Engineer. The plan was well received. There were a number of questions presented, as well as a number of suggestions made. We have been finalizing our proposal to include the suggestions and we expect to be able to submit the final plans shortly to both the Town Planning Board and Zoning Board.

We have started the Schematic Design portion of the project. As part of that effort we met with lighting and acoustics experts recently to review our needs. We know how important lighting and acoustics can be to the final Worship Space and are attempting to address these needs at every step in the project. If all goes well, we hope to get approval from The Town Planning and Zoning Boards for the site plan and a height variance for the new structure within the next 3-4 months and then move quickly into the Design Development Phase. The proposed height of the new Church structure is 43 feet from the floor to the roof. The height to the top of the exterior cross is 79 feet. The current zoning calls for a maximum height of 35 feet.

Many of you have asked when we will "break ground" for the new structure. We have plenty to do between now and then. Some of the key phases which will take us most of the next 12 months include: Design Development, Creation of Construction Documents, Construction Cost review and Approval, Site Plan Application, Building Permit Application, and Bid and Award a Construction Contract. Assuming all goes well we hope to "break ground" in October 2015 and be in our new Church by December 1, 2016.

Once again, thank you to everyone for your prayers, your pledges, and your patience. We will be updating you monthly on progress, but if you have any questions about the Building Project, the Capital Campaign, or any other phase of the project please review the materials on our parish website ([www.stedwardsny.org](http://www.stedwardsny.org)) or contact a member of the Master Planning or Capital Campaign Committees.

Yours in Christ,

Father Patrick Butler