

## ST. MARY'S CHURCH PRESERVATION PROJECT AND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN STATUS UPDATE

November 9, 2014

Updates on the status of the Preservation Project and the Capital Campaign will appear monthly, posted in the Church and on our website, <a href="http://www.stcecilia-lagunitas.org">http://www.stcecilia-lagunitas.org</a> following the link to St. Mary's Capital Campaign.

- Discussions of St. Mary's upcoming 150<sup>th</sup> dedication anniversary began late in 2013
- In March, 2014, a Preservation Capital Campaign Committee was formed to begin planning for both the renovation work and the fund-raising process to support the renovation
  - We decided early on that painting of the exterior was the top priority
  - We also decided that we should do a thorough survey of any other work that might be necessary since the last structural work was done in 1978
- Accordingly, we engaged on a pro bono basis the general contractor who has done the substantial renovation work at St. Cecilia's to give us some ideas of what to consider
- After several on-site inspections, he recommended a list of and rough cost estimates for possible areas to address including:
  - Exterior painting
  - Seismic strengthening of the foundation and bell tower
  - o Electrical upgrade to ensure adequate power to both lights and outlets
  - Window repair and sealing
  - And several other areas for consideration
  - He also recommended that we engage a structural engineer to address the seismic strengthening
- The Committee reviewed his reports and eventually decided that we would set our capital campaign target at \$170,000 to be adjusted over time as we progressed through the detailed evaluations of each of the recommended areas
  - o In June 2014, we began serious planning for the fund raising effort, knowing that we would need to have a full commitment from the parishioners before we could approach the wider Nicasio area community and local foundations to support the Campaign
- During the early summer 2014, we also searched for a local structural engineer to make the seismic upgrade
  assessments. Bob Arrigoni, the architect who did the rough sketches for the 1978 work, recommended a fellow
  with whom we are currently working
  - o The first step is a set of working sketches of all the work that would be necessary to bring St. Mary's up to current seismic code
  - We will then invite one or more general contractors to use the working sketches to estimate in more detail what each would cost
  - o From these estimates, we can then decide which of those items we will actually commit to doing and prioritize the list. This will also help establish our final working budget
  - That prioritized list will then be presented to the parish for comments and suggestions
    - To the extent possible, we will incorporate suggestions from the parishioners for additional items to include in the overall project