

# OUR BUILDING PLANS

Ground Breaking Ceremony: Saturday, May 16 at 4:00pm



## The Gift of Prayer

April 5, 2009

### **Master Builders Go to Work**

As the date for the Ground Breaking Ceremony for St. Cecilia Activity Center gets closer (May 16), we realize that what we are celebrating is truly the work of the Divine Master Builder. We who have pledged our time, talent and treasure are only the tools of the great Master Builder.

Jesus learned the art of carpentry from his foster father, Joseph. He worked with metal, stone and wood to create homes, tools and furniture. Whether he built a table or a synagogue, he was ultimately creating an instrument that God would use to complete His work on earth.

Architects and construction workers of today continue God's work of creation. If we wish to success



fully build a place of gathering for God's people at St. Cecilia Parish in Beaverton, let us go to the Divine Master Builder.

### **St. Joseph's Staircase**

There is a story of a mysterious "itinerant carpenter" who volunteered to build a spiral staircase in a convent chapel in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The completed work is a circular staircase of thirty-three steps consisting of two complete spirals (720°) without any central support. The top rests against the loft; the foot rests on the floor below where the entire weight seems to be supported. Wooden pegs take the place of nails.

After the completion of the project, the superior looked for the worker to pay him, but he was nowhere to be found! A reward was offered, but no one claimed it. The people believed it to be St. Joseph.

Whether or not we have been able to donate time, talent and treasure

to our parish building project, we can all pray that the hearts and hands of today's carpenters will be guided by God's grace in the construction of our new St. Cecilia Activity Center and School Renovations:

***Jesus, Master Carpenter, guide the hearts and hands of all the people involved in Phase I of our building project. We trust you to provide for the safety of all workers and sufficient finances to complete the building and renovations in a timely manner.***

During this Holy Week, we ask you to remember all the volunteers who help with the Pastoral Council, the Facilities Review Committee, the Building Committee and the Capital Campaign Committee. Their hard work and dedication over the last 3 years enable us as a parish to develop a master building plan for our parish centered around building our faith. The vision statement for St. Cecilia Parish is "Strengthening Our Catholic Faith in Our Life Time" and we pray for the volunteers who have enable us to live that vision.

### **Campaign Prayer**

O Loving Father, Creator and Protector of all, we seek your guidance and wisdom as we come together to present our needs and desires to build a stronger community of faith here at St. Cecilia Parish.

Make us afire with unifying Spirit as we reach out to build our parish a familial and welcoming home for all Your sons and daughters.

Enliven our faith as we commit ourselves sacrificially for the interests of the community as a whole.

Make us Your co-workers because in vain do we labor if You do not build this house.

We ask this through our Lord,  
Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

*Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.  
St. Joseph, Protector of the Church, pray for us.  
St. Cecilia, wise virgin and martyr, pray for us.*

### **Past issues of Our Building Plans:**

- *Announcement of General Contractors Chosen to Bid*
- *Parish Activity Center and Kitchen*
- *Building in a Tough Economy*
- *Outside Funding Sources*

These issues can be found on our website at [www.stceciliachurch.org](http://www.stceciliachurch.org)