

Dear Parishioners,

After almost three months of submitting information, providing documentation, responding to questions and waiting, on Friday, August 28, 2015, I received word from the office of the Secretary for Temporal Services in the Archdiocese that all the final approvals for the remediation work on the church tower were in place and that the project could begin.

The bidding process for the remediation work began with project specifications prepared throughout May and issued in mid June with a request for proposals by early July. On Monday, July 20th all submitted bids were opened. In the end a total of four companies submitted proposals. On Friday, August 28, at the same time the project was approved, an award letter with notice of intent was sent to Joseph Dugan, Inc., a company that specializes in masonry restoration and waterproofing, accepting that company's bid for the work to begin as soon as possible. The work will be undertaken using a "time & material" construction approach for an amount not to exceed \$989,000.00 as specified in the bid.

Along with this cost, however, there will be other further expenses outside of the masonry work since I hope to take advantage of the scaffolding while it is in place to address necessary repairs to the louvers on the bell level, the repairing, cleaning, weatherproofing and painting of the clock faces, the installation of windows for the lantern section and the repairing and painting the cross at the apex.

Of course all the work will be done mindful of our tower residents, the peregrine falcons.

As you can imagine, for a project such as this the construction process is a complex undertaking which involves the coordination many different activities and participants from initial planning, execution and completion. The required tasks, roles and responsibilities of the parish staff, architects, engineers, construction managers, contractors, and subcontractors will be organized in a such a way to deliver a timely completed construction project. Hopefully, we will not experience any delays or cost overruns.

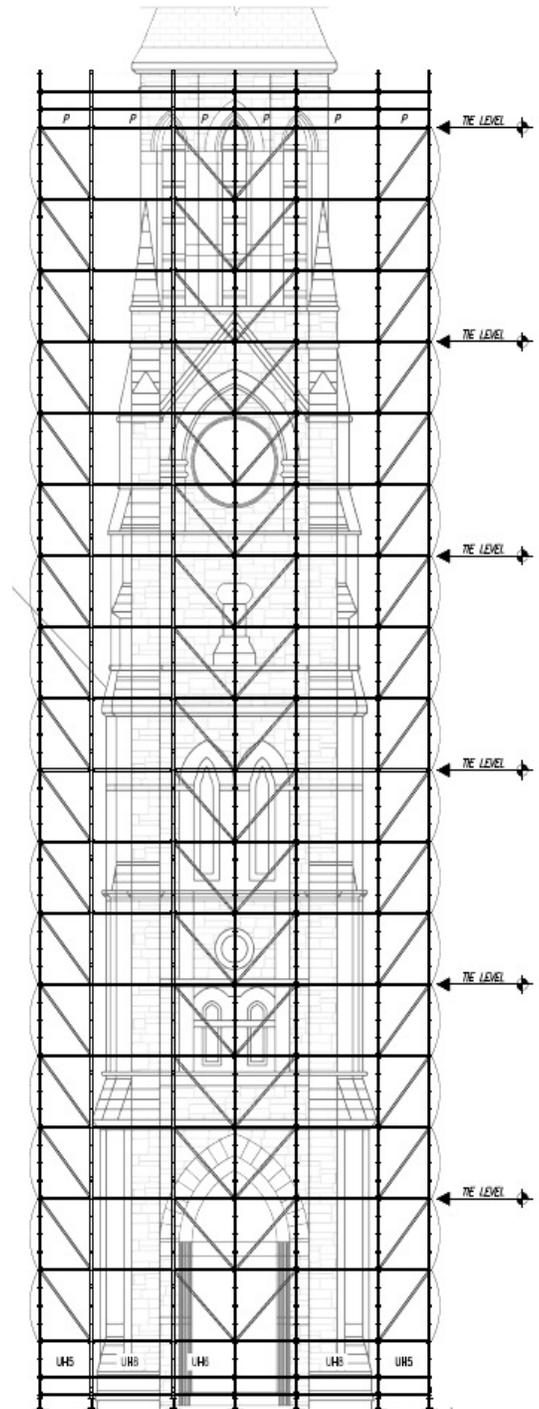
Funding for the project will come from a number of sources, including but not limited to proceeds by the Friends of Saint John the Baptist 2014 Fall Appeal, savings trust funds held by the Archdiocese, and especially, the extraordinary income that is the focus of the capital campaign now in the beginning stages. While it would be good to have the capital campaign well underway before beginning this project, it is paramount that the work begin and be completed as much as possible before the onset of winter.

Construction begins with the placement of scaffolding on Tuesday, September 8, 2015 which is the feast of the Nativity of Mary. It is a good day to begin this work and a good idea to call on the intercession of our Blessed Mother for all involved. Please remember in your daily prayers the safety of the workers, the successful completion of the work and a positive response to the capital campaign which is so critical to our funding for the project.

Happy Labor Day and have a great week!



Engineering rendering of Rector Street view of SJB Church tower with scaffolding.



3 WEST ELEVATION
SS-1 SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"
SEE 2/SS-1 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION