

*Building
a People
of Faith*

TO BUILD CHURCH
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

TBCTimes

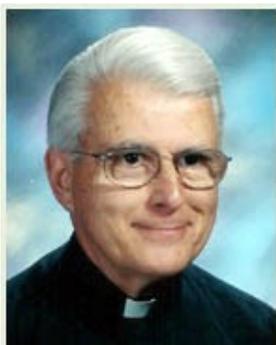
Saint Joseph Parish, Old Mission San Jose

August 2010

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What is Happening in Our Church? A Letter from Monsignor Manuel Simas



Last weekend I shared with you that Father Joseph will be moving to the Cathedral of Christ the Light in September. Perhaps the Bishop wants to keep a closer eye on him. We have been truly blessed with Joseph's ministry in our parish and we wish him well on his new assignment in Oakland. Watch the bulletin for a future announcement of a parish farewell celebration for Father Joseph.

Last weekend I also shared with you that, so far this year, our weekly plate collection is significantly lower than budgeted. The parish staff is striving to keep expenses below budget, but without your increased weekly support our parish will end the year with a budget deficit.

Please help to meet our financial obligations and avoid a budget deficit by increasing your plate contribution by \$5 a week.

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In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus tells the story of the rich man who saved up his bountiful harvest only to learn that he couldn't take it with him. According to the teachings of the Church, Christian stewardship is the way that we should live our faith in this world. It is our recognition that everything we have, and everything we are, is a gift from God, on loan to us. As good stewards, we are to make fruitful use of these gifts and to give back to God the first fruits of our Time, Talent and Treasure. We do this to acknowledge our gratitude for the gifts He has given us, not because God *needs* our thanks but because *we need* to be grateful.

I've written about Talent and Treasure in previous TBC Times letters, and I'm asking for more of your Treasure in this letter. But I'd like to devote the rest of this letter to another aspect of stewardship: Time. Our Gospel reading two weeks ago was the familiar story of Martha and Mary. Martha complains to Jesus that Mary isn't helping her with the work of providing hospitality for Jesus and his companions. Jesus answers by saying that Mary has chosen the better portion. What does this mean?

I think that Jesus is teaching us the importance of making time for God. Jesus doesn't say that what Martha is doing is unnecessary or unimportant, or that Mary should not help with these tasks. Jesus says that spending time with Him is the "better portion." We, too, need to make "quality time" in our lives for God.

In last weekend's Gospel, Jesus taught the disciples how to pray. Jesus doesn't teach prayer as a method of obtaining what we want, but as the way to build a trusting, loving, parent-child relationship with God, as Jesus has with the Father. The words of the Lord's Prayer do this by expressing gratitude, acknowledging our trust in God, and asking for His forgiveness and protection.

Do we pray only when we want something from God? Are we grateful for God's gifts, and more importantly, do we take the time to tell God that we are grateful? Do we forgive others as we ask God to forgive us? Do we truly spend time with God?

Time is a gift from God, just like Talent and Treasure. As the rich man learned in this weekend's Gospel story, time can't be stored up in a warehouse for later use when needed. In gratitude for all that God has given us, we need to give some time, the "better portion," back to God. Let us all regularly make time in our busy lives to pray, spending quality time with God in quiet gratitude, trust and companionship.

Peace and love,

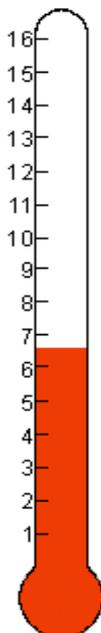
Father Manny

Monsignor Manuel Simas

Capital Campaign Corner

- Shortfall \$9,486,000
- Other Income \$700,000
- Property Sales \$5,275,000
- 2nd Campaign \$2,439,000
- 1st Campaign \$4,100,000

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View of worship space from rear plaza.

Environment for Catholic Worship Part 5 Reservation of the Eucharist

Reservation of the Eucharist

From the Coordinating Committee

Communication is a key element in the success of any group effort.

The Coordinating Committee will be issuing this newsletter as a regular insert into the bulletin and other church mailers to keep the parish at large informed on the progress of our project.

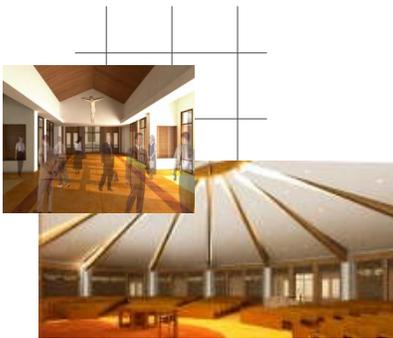
- Monsignor Manuel Simas
- Father Joseph Nguyen
- Ashley Weerpass
- Matthew Au
- Don Kaefer
- Lauri Kaefer
- Tony Mirinda
- Jim Petersen
- Cris Raimundo
- Debbie Rossetto
- Hung Tran
- Bill Utic

Look for each issue of the TBC Times to give you the latest update on how we are doing, what we are doing, and what more is to come as we rebuild our church together.

History of Eucharistic Reservation In the early church, when believers were unable to join their brothers and sisters in the Eucharist because of sickness, a portion of eucharistic bread was taken from the celebration to their homes so they could be united with the community in their thanksgiving. It gradually became the custom to store a small amount of the remaining Eucharist for those expected to die. This became known as *viaticum*—food for their journey. The place where the Eucharist

was stored gradually gained in prominence from simple cupboards in rooms outside the main worship space to more prominent, even elaborate tabernacles. By the 17th century the tabernacle was commonly found on the central altar. The exceptions were found in cathedrals and basilicas, where tabernacles have often been placed on side altars or in separate chapels.

In recent years, in order to emphasize the importance of the action of the whole assembly gathered around the altar and the presiding priest, the tabernacle has been removed from the altar table. The discipline of the Church requires that the tabernacle be truly prominent in our worship spaces, but never in such a way that it obscures the focus of the principal activity of the celebration of the Eucharist. In some churches, it is located in a separate chapel designed for prayer, meditation and adoration. It may also be set in the main worship space but at some distance or separation from the altar.



Renderings of new church interiors:
Top: Narthex before entering worship space.
Above: Inside worship space looking from choir area.

Today the reservation of the Eucharist in the tabernacle still serves the needs of the ministry to the sick and dying and other situations when Communion is given outside Mass. It is also the place for the adoration of Christ in the reserved Eucharistic bread. It is not to be seen as a storage of consecrated hosts for future Masses, except in the case of unexpected numbers of communicants.



Architectural drawing of a temporary tower for the reservation of the Eucharist.