



Gracious, Ever Present God,
We come to you again seeking
your blessing and support for
St. Augustine. As we try to build
physical spaces to worship and
serve you, we ask you to guide
us to create spiritual spaces in
our lives, and hearts to rest and
commune with you.
We ask you to bless our Parish
Council and parish community
with wisdom and strength.
We ask you to bless each of us
as we struggle with the changes
that are happening around us in
the world and in the parish.
Your blessings and love abound,
dear Lord,

Amen

Parish Council Members:

Priest: Father Shimit
Chairperson: Russell Hemingson
Vice Chairperson: Charmaine Arandez
Deacon Rollie Comeau, Roy Fairclough,
Franziska Hefti; Ken Kustiak, Art Mandanas
and Tim Nelson

Finance Committee: Joe Henderson,
Mike Parker, Ed Ellingson

**Building Committee and Fundraising
Committee** to be established

Steering Committee (final decisions
related to new church, to be set)

Advisory Partners:

Archbishop Richard Smith and Financial
Officer of Archdiocese of Edmonton: Wayne
Provencal

Let us make a commitment **to be Catholics -
who make a difference and lead through
our example of compassion, acceptance
and generosity in our parish community.**

April 8, 2018

St. Augustine Parish Ponoka

Phone: 403-783-4048



A Look At The Future of St. Augustine Church

As parishioners we need to
take action.
Repairs to our current church
seem overwhelming.
Access to the sanctuary in the
basement is not "barrier free".
The bathrooms are too small
and inaccessible
for the elderly.

What do we do?

Condition of the Present Church

Burgess Bredo Architecture Ltd. completed a facility evaluation August 2017. The following repairs are necessary:

1. The concrete walls and floor in the basement show signs of deterioration and moisture ingress.
2. Flooding in the basement is a problem, and aggressive action to address this problem is required.
3. Many of the mechanical and electrical components and systems are well beyond expected lifespans. They need to be replaced to maintain current functionality.
4. The building has poor “barrier free” access related to the wheelchair ramp and downstairs bathroom.
5. There is a strong possibility that the basement will develop hazardous materials including mold.

“God provides the wind, but you must raise the sails.”

Estimated Costs

1. The estimated cost of repairs in the 2018-2023 time frame is \$1,570,000.
2. The estimated replacement cost based on a church like St. Stephen’s Church in Lacombe is \$3,200,000.
3. The engineers note that spending \$1,570,000 repairing the church still means we have a 68 year old building with a deteriorating design life. This will not have the same effect or life span as a new \$3,200,000 church.
4. These estimates are based on seating for 180 people in the nave and a church hall that would accommodate 180 people.
5. The projected life expectancy of the present building is 2-10 years with expected major expenses within the next 4 years.
6. Parish Council and Parish Finance Committee recommend the church be replaced with a comparable size building without the church living quarters. This view is also shared by Archbishop Smith as well as Burgess Bredo Architect Ltd.

Facts

1. There are 400 registered family units in our parish, this translates into about 800 people.
2. The rectory is in need of repair. Burgess Bredo Architecture Ltd. recommends not replacing it.
3. The present church building sits on four town lots, and the K of C own 4 of the 5 lots to the east of the church.
4. The K of C is prepared to donate land as needed and support a new building financially.
5. The cost to build a church similar to St. Stephen’s in Lacombe is \$250 per square foot.
6. Repairing the present church is a short term fix, not a long term fix.
7. Before proceeding with anything, parishioners must give input.
8. We are all people of hope! Let’s move forward together with prayers for wisdom and guidance.