

12/11/2018

The Most Reverend James P. Powers  
Diocese of Superior  
PO Box 969  
Superior, WI 54880

Dear Bishop Powers:

St. Anthony Abbot parish in Cumberland is in the process of considering whether it is financially feasible to build a new church building. The current church building is in need of much repair, especially in the area of the roof and in relation to water infiltration issues related to the roof and basement walls. Last year I had an inspection of the current building done by Northwest Builders, a local contractor that did work for us on the Sacred Heart project in Almena. After looking at all the issues surrounding the current building the conclusion was that we could repair/remodel the church, but it could cost us more, if not substantially more, than it would cost to build a new building.

The Pastoral Council has reviewed this information and they have appointed a building committee to assist in evaluating the feasibility of this project. Some of these members were on the committee that previously looked at building a new church in 2010, so they are familiar with previous discussions. The building committee met with Dan Blank in October of this year and he provided us with the multi-phase process and procedure required for a project of this type.

Following Dan's visit I announced at weekend masses that we are once again considering the construction of a new church building and outlined the issues with the current building and the work that has been done to date. The response from parishioners following those announcements have been, for the most part, positive. Naturally there are a few dissenters, but for the most part the feedback received has been favorable.

Currently the parish has a little over one million dollars in investments and savings that it could put toward this project. The remainder would have to come through donations, a capital campaign, and possibly financing. It's hard to say at this point without having a clear idea of what needs to be built and what its potential cost would be.

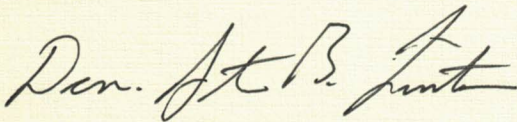
At this time we would like to request your conceptual approval under phase one of the process and procedures for building a new church building.



We would also like to request your permission, under phase two, to begin identifying and working with an architect who can help us envision what our needs in a new building might be, what that building would look like, and what the potential cost might be. Given that information we could then seriously consider whether the project is financially feasible or not. We would also then be in a position to go back to our parishioners in a much more detailed and informed way in seeking their input and support.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions. We would greatly appreciate your support for this project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dcn. Steven G. Linton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" being the most prominent part.

Dcn. Steven G. Linton, Parish Life Coordinator  
St. Anthony, St. Ann & Sacred Heart Parish Community

Encl: Josh Peck letter - Northwest Builders, Inc.

cc: Rev. John R. Gerritts, Vicar Forane - Supervising Pastor





# Northwest Builders, Inc.

Phone: 715-234-7066

2063 17 ½ Ave  
Rice Lake, WI 54868

[www.nwbbuildersinc.com](http://www.nwbbuildersinc.com)

September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Deacon Steve Linton  
St. Anthony Parish  
Cumberland, Wisconsin

RE: Remodeling existing Church

Deacon Steve,

After our meeting on site we reviewed in depth your proposed remodel. We looked over the pictures, notes and concepts and came to the resolve that building new vs remodeling the existing church would be the better long term investment for the church.

A few of the deciding factors:

- Condition of existing foundation
- Current mechanical systems in place
- ADA issues
- Water infiltration damage
- Increasing seating capacity to 300

If you would like to meet again to review further we'd be happy to schedule a meeting to discuss.

Joshua Peck

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