



FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JONATHAN

APRIL 2, 2017

As I mentioned in some of the masses last week, the plans for the interior restoration of the church continue to move forward, and on schedule. We had one significant setback last week when we discovered that beneath the church floor is a layer of broken asbestos tile. Since the current floor is cracking, this means the asbestos is partially exposed, remediation must happen as soon as possible, and the installation of the new floor will take longer and be more expensive than originally planned. The hardest part about this calendar change was that I needed to inform several couples that we would not be able to have their weddings in the main church. Can I tell you how impressed and inspired I was by the reaction of these couples to the bad news?! Without exception, they were extremely gracious, telling me that while they are very disappointed, they understand the urgency of the project and want our church to be in the best possible conditions for the next 100 years! I was especially blessed by one of the grooms, the son of one of our longtime parishioners, who told me that this is a good reminder for them as a couple to place their attention on the sacrament of marriage, and not on the externals. That's a lot of faith! We are working with them to have the weddings take place in Fatima Chapel (where all of our masses will take place for several months) or at a nearby church.

Let's continue to pray as a parish family that these last two weeks of Lent and the coming months of restoration be a time of renewal of our hearts!

**God Bless,
Father Jonathan**

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