



St. Edmond Roman Catholic Church

4131 W. Congress St.
Lafayette, LA 70506
337-981-0874 FAX 989-1417

*mailed
3/5/25*

February 27, 2025

Bishop Douglas Deshotel
Diocese of Lafayette
1408 Carmel Drive
Lafayette, LA 70501-5215

Re: Freestanding Adoration Chapel, Lighting and Sound System in Church

Dear Bishop Deshotel,

Please accept this as a letter of needs regarding the construction of a freestanding Adoration Chapel here at St. Edmond. The current location of our Adoration Chapel has many issues prompting this request. More reverence for the Blessed Sacrament is our priority. The current location also does not have an accessible restroom limiting many parishioners from being able to adore here. The chapel is attached to our Family Center which hosts many parish ministry meetings making adoration very challenging for our adorers due to noise levels. We are just in the preliminary stages of the building concept. The building size is projected to be between 700-800 square feet and will seat approximately 14-16 people with restroom facilities and storage space. We have also discussed the possibility of addressing the sound system and lighting in the church as well. We estimate the cost of the Freestanding Chapel to be approximately \$500,000 and the church lighting/sound issues to be approximately \$150,000. The funds to pay for this would come from our General Funds CDLP which is approximately \$2,000,000. We would like to explore the possibility of having a Capital Campaign to fund at least half of the cost.

Therefore, I request that you approve our moving forward .

In St. Edmond,

Rev. Joseph Campion
Rev. Joseph Campion

St. Edmond Parish Finance Council

Meeting Minutes

January 29, at 5:00 PM – Administration Building – Main Conference Room

- I. Call to Order Time: 5:02 PM
- II. Opening Prayer led by Father Joe
- III. Roll Call by Chairperson (Albert Simien Jr)
 - **Members-Present**
 - *Pastor:* Fr. Joe Campion
 - *Parish Trustees:*
 - *Bookkeeper (ex officio):* Karen Broussard
 - *Finance Advisory Council Members:* Albert Simien Jr (chair); Dolores Ancona; Lewis Bernard and Starr Berthelot
 - *Special Guest:* Chad Gotreaux
 - **Members-Absent/Excused:**
 - Keith Patin and Jim Trahan
- IV. New Business
 - a. Adoration Chapel Discussion
 - i. Discussed proceeding with the feasibility analysis and cost study of building a free-standing adoration chapel
 1. The primary reasons are due to noise (coming from the family center), more reverence to the Blessed Sacrament, seating capacity, no restroom facilities, etc
 2. Communication plan is to speak Finance, Advisory, and then propose to the parishioners
 3. We are just in the preliminary stages of the building concept
 4. Building size is projected between 700 to 800 square feet and will seat approximately 14 to 16 people with restroom facilities and storage space
 - a. We also discussed the possibility of addressing the sound system and lighting in the church as well
 5. Discussed having a matching campaign to fund the building based on the proceeds from the parishioners
 6. **Motion to proceed with feasibility analysis and cost study was made by Dolores and seconded by Starr**
- V. Close of meeting. Time 5:40 PM
- VI. Closing prayer offered by Chad Gotreaux

**St. Edmond Parish Advisory Council
Special Meeting Minutes
January 30, 2025**

Council chair, Ralph Gaubert, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The opening prayer was led by Fr. Joe.

Members present: Fr. Joe Campion, Keith Patin, Charlene Bernard, Lisa Collard, America De Los Rios Daigle (Substitute for Georgina), Ralph Gaubert, Kimberly Gothreaux, Bobby Green, Ricky Moran, Kay Richard, Johnny Schwegmann, Leah Simmons, Bill Vidacovich

Excused/Absent: Deacon Frank Cormier, Jim Trahan, Travis Meche, Georgina O'Campo, Mike Terro

Guests: Architects, Mario Benoit and Steven Domingue and Architecture Designer, Doug Gauthier; members of a subcommittee looking into the designs of an Adoration Chapel on campus.

Father Joe stated that about a year ago he threw out the idea of having a free-standing Adoration Chapel, as the one we have is not adequate for reverence and adoration. It is also lacking bathroom facilities. Because of the Jubilee which occurred last year, he decided to postpone the idea until now. He reported the following information from the Finance Committee meeting held last night: The construction cost is approximately \$500,000 and because there is approximately \$2,000,000 in savings, the Finance Committee proposed that Church funds be used for half of the cost and that a Capital Campaign be held to fund the rest of it. In addition, because the Church has a lighting and sound problem with an approximate cost of \$150,000 to remedy, the Finance Committee voted to include all of this into one project.

He then turned the meeting over to Steven Domingue, who gave a presentation on the design guiding principles that they considered for the Chapel. These included Sacred Silence, Spatial Intimacy, Faithful Community Uplift, Enduring Craftsmanship, Meaningful Location and Contextual Harmony, Safety and Accessibility and Symbolic Significance. He also stated that the project may involve some drainage issues which would add to the cost.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Kay Richard and seconded by Lisa Collard that the Council follow the recommendations of the Finance Committee to move forward on all three projects. The motion passed unanimously.

The closing prayer was led by Keith Patin.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55PM.

The next meeting will be held on February 27, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlene Bernard