

“PARDON OUR PROGRESS”

Notes on Our Transition to Varallo Parish Hall during the Sanctuary Renovation

Dear Parishioner,

This week we begin our long-awaited sanctuary renovation. This will take us out of the sanctuary until sometime this fall. We hope we will be displaced only about three months. However, it does mean that we will have to make lots of adjustments during this period. Below you will find a number of informative points to address the transition and the special circumstances that we find ourselves under. We have endeavored to do our best in the area of continuity with the beauty, reverence, and transcendence that we have enjoyed in our sacred liturgy. But some things, by their nature, must be adjusted or sacrificed during this time. Many of the things that we are doing are only temporary, and when we return to the sanctuary it will give us an opportunity to re-introduce and come to appreciate all the more what we have had to give up in our time below.

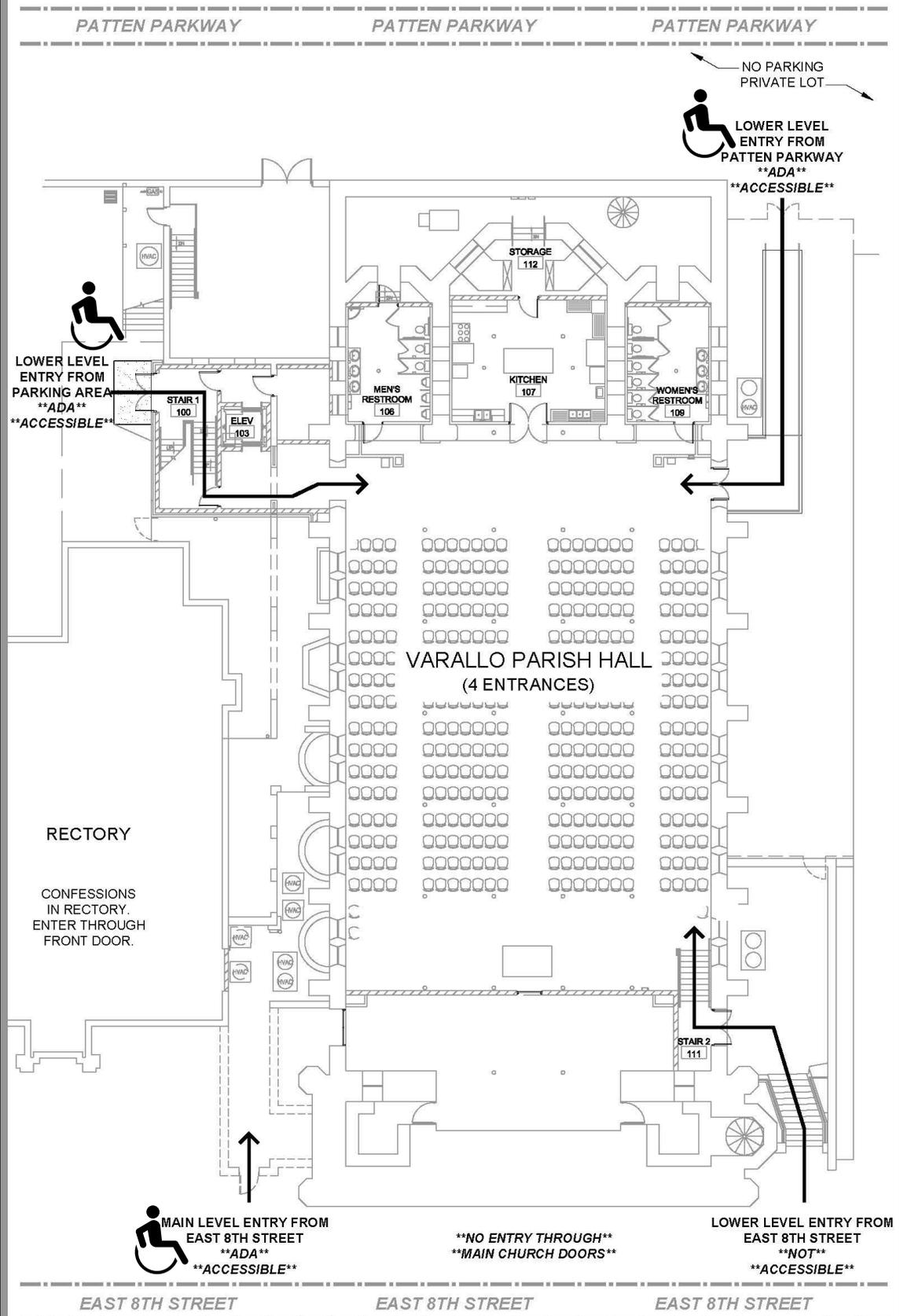
- **Entrances to Varallo Parish Hall** – Besides the entrance you are familiar with in the lower parking lot, we will have three other entrances: one coming directly from 8th Street down the stairs, and the second coming from the Patten Parkway side and entering near the women’s restroom side. The glass door on 8th Street will now also be open. (See map on the reverse side.) All but the 8th Street gated entrance are handicapped-accessible.
- **Presence of the Blessed Sacrament** - The Blessed Sacrament will be reserved in the Tabernacle behind the temporary altar. When the room is used for other purposes, a divider will be placed in front of the altar to close off that side of the altar, but be attentive to the presence of Our Lord and give the due respect to the Blessed Sacrament.
- **Kneeling** – Due to lack of room for kneeling, I ask that we stand during the Eucharistic prayer and bow at the consecration. You may kneel if you like, but you will quickly find that you won’t have room to do it without severely impacting the people around you. Standing is a legitimate way of expressing reverence, considering the circumstances.
- **Hymnals and missals** – Due to the lack of space for storage in Varallo Parish Hall for our hymnals and missals, we have opted to go with prepared worship aids during the renovation time. These are not as complete as a missal or hymnal would be, but will accomplish the purpose well enough while preventing wear and tear on the books. The readings will be printed in Spanish, due to space constraints, and this will give us an opportunity to savor the Word of God and the prayers of the Mass solely through our ears.
- **Organ** - We will be without our pipe organ. The music will be played on an electronic keyboard.
- **Incense** - We will not be using incense, due to the smoke alarms.
- **Confessions** – Confessions will be in the rectory parlor and chapel. You enter through the front door of the rectory on 8th Street. There will be a privacy screen available.
- **Adoration** - Adoration will take place in the Rectory Chapel on First Friday and at our Evenings of Recollection. All night First Friday adoration will take place in Varallo Parish Hall.
- **Nursery** - The nursery will remain open and staffed.
- **Gift shop** - The gift shop will remain open and staffed when possible.
- **Hispanic participation at all Masses** – Due to the large size of our Spanish Mass and the limited space that we have, we have asked the Hispanic community to consider going to the other English language Masses offered, to ease the burden on the one Spanish Mass. This means, however, that others will be coming into an unfamiliar environment and will need our assistance to feel welcomed and appreciated in our one Lord. This is a great opportunity for integration of our Anglo and Hispanic communities.

Through this period of waiting, let’s keep in mind the beautiful sanctuary upgrades that we will have when we return in a few months: The Tabernacle will be moved to the center in its ideal place of honor. We will have beautiful new altars, a restored altar rail, and gleaming hardwood floors throughout the church. The small sacrifices that we made will have been worthwhile. All to the greater glory of God!

Sincerely in Christ Jesus,



THE BASILICA OF SAINTS PETER & PAUL



**ENTRY PLAN FOR
TEMPORARY SANCTUARY LOCATION**