

Cathedral Ceiling Repair Update #8, November 11

We have made significant progress on both the ceiling repair front and the fundraising effort.

The plaster repair is progressing quickly. All deteriorated plaster areas have been cutout and in all but one of the areas the new plastering has been completed (see pictures below). However, in one location, cutting away the plaster revealed a joist that had completely cracked through. This joist had significant pieces cut out during some previous construction so it had insufficient material remaining to support the ceiling in this area. The repair approach is being finalized. In parallel, the plasterers are repairing the larger cracks throughout the ceiling.



New plaster in two different coffers. The black rectangle is the air conditioning duct with the cover removed.



Damaged ceiling joist – cutout of the ceiling showing the joist which was severely notched (lower part of the joist), causing it to crack entirely across (upper part of the joist). Repair to occur next week.

Regarding the fundraising effort, we kicked off both the capital campaign and the fundraising committee. Father Chris sent out a heartfelt donation appeal letter describing the problem and the importance of St. Nicholas Cathedral to the lives of all of us. There has been a nice initial response to the appeal.

The donor form is attached. Our on-line donation website has been updated to include a selection for donating to the ceiling restoration project.

As a memento of this ceiling project, donors to the project and all their family members will be invited to sign a construction panel. This panel will be installed in a non-visible location on the new ceiling. It will act as a permanent connection between your family and your St. Nicholas Cathedral. Also, for those who wish, engraved pavers can be installed in the existing circle in the parklet along Forbes Ave. Pavers are available at the \$1,250, \$2,500, \$5,000 and \$25,000 level. A pledged donation can be paid over a two-year period.

A committee has been formed to generate ideas for fundraising activities and discuss the couple of events already identified. This will be the coordinating committee, in that efforts will spin off with their own group to organize their effort. The first meeting is November 13 after Divine Liturgy. If you are interested in participating, please attend.

Cathedral Ceiling Restoration Project

Donation and Pledge Form

Donor Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Total Amount Pledged _____

Today's Date _____

Payment Options

Paid in Full _____

Initial Payment _____ Your plan for additional payments _____

Donations can be by check or made on-line with credit/debit card. From the St. Nicholas web site, www.stnickspgh.org, go to the "Giving" tab and click "Donate" from the pull-down. Indicate on the form that the donation is for the ceiling project.

A construction board with signatures of all donors will be installed as part of the new ceiling. All donor family members can sign it. The board will be available at the church from mid-November through the end of December.

Engraved commemorative pavers are also available at the sizes below. These pavers will be added to the granite circle in our green space. Please indicate if you are interested in a paver and you will be provided with additional information.

____ 8" x 4" Paver at \$1,250

____ 8" x 8" Paver at \$2,500

____ 12" x 12" Granite at \$5,000 (pieces that make up the center cross)

____ 42" x 15" Exterior Granite Ring at \$25,000 (pieces on either side of the Bible verse)