
THE GARTH + COLUMBARIUM RENOVATION PROJECT

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: Why is the parish renovating the garth and columbarium?

The foundation under the columbarium has shifted, and the parish plans to replace the current columbarium foundation with a permanent building-style foundation. In addition, the current columbarium has been fully reserved for several years, and the project will expand the columbarium to accommodate those in our parish who would like to reserve a niche.

Q: Where are remains interred during construction?

Treating the remains interred in the columbarium with care and respect has been the parish's highest priority since the start of this project. During the renovations, all remains in the columbarium have been interred behind the chapel altar in the church building. You are welcome to come inside the chapel by entering the doors at the back of the church. If the church building is closed, please visit the parish office.

Q: Did the parish notify families with loved ones interred?

In January 2019, the parish mailed a letter describing the project to the next of kin for each person whose remains are interred in the columbarium. During the first several months of 2019, the parish held information sessions to describe the project to families. In November 2019, the parish mailed a letter notifying families that the project was about to begin.

Q: How is the parish funding the renovation project?

Reservation fees paid by parishioners reserving new niches and generous gifts made to the project are funding the renovation. Funds in excess of construction costs will go into a perpetual care fund to help maintain the columbarium in perpetuity.

Q: Are there niches available in the expanded columbarium?

Yes, there are niches available for reservation in the expanded columbarium. For more information, including a diagram of available niches, please visit www.gsAustin.org/columbarium or contact Dawn Kaberline in the parish office at 512.476.3523.

Q: Before the renovation project, I reserved a niche in the columbarium near the niches of friends or family members. Will my niche in the renovated columbarium be located near the niches of the same people?

To the maximum extent possible, we have assigned niches in the renovated columbarium that are located near the same niche-holders as before. In January 2019 we wrote to all of those who have niches reserved in the columbarium. The letter contained information about the location of your niche in the renovated columbarium. If it is useful to have any additional information about this, please contact Dawn Kaberline in the parish office at 512.476.3523.
