

Fr. Jorge Roman
P.O. Box 372
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-0372

Dear Fr. Jorge,

I am happy to inform you that Bishop Blaire has given his consent for your parish to proceed with the construction of a long-awaited parish hall. Of course, the Bishop's consent is predicated on the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils giving their final approval to proceed with the project.

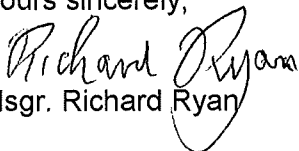
In moving forward, the Diocese would like to make the following observations:

It is the policy of the Diocese that the final 10% of the overall cost of the building is not to be paid sooner than 30 days after the completion of the project to ensure that all aspects of the contracted construction are deemed to have been satisfactorily completed. Due to the financial constraints this requirement would place on the contractor, the parish wishes to forgo this aspect of the Diocesan Building and Maintenance Policy. While the Diocese is not going to object to your decision, we believe that the requirement is a wise business practice; in the event that your decision proves detrimental to your parish, the Diocese does not take any responsibility for your decision.

Our second observation centers on financial stability of the parish. You are working on a very tight budget for the construction of this building. It is not uncommon for unforeseen costs to arise during the construction period. Additionally, the on-going maintenance and operational expenses of new buildings adds to the annual parish budget. As you begin this project, it is an ideal opportunity to develop a fundraising plan that will ensure the financial stability of the parish as you move forward. It could be a Mini-Capital Campaign organized by a professional fundraising company; you could also institute an Offetory Increase Program with the help of a professional company. Our Development Office can provide you with helpful information and direction if you decide to proceed with either of these two options. We strongly suggest that you discuss this matter with your Finance Council and inform us of your action plan within the next two months.

In conclusion, on behalf of Bishop Blaire and myself, we wish you every success in bringing this important endeavor to a conclusion.

Yours sincerely,


Msgr. Richard Ryan

cc.: Bishop Stephen Blaire
Kathy Cage
Doug Adel, CFO