

St. C's Columbarium Expansion: Q & A

What is it?

Located on the north end of the church property, the Columbarium is the walled garden designed to be the final resting place for the ashes of parishioners who have died.

How long has it been there?

The current Columbarium was created in the early 1980s.

How large is it?

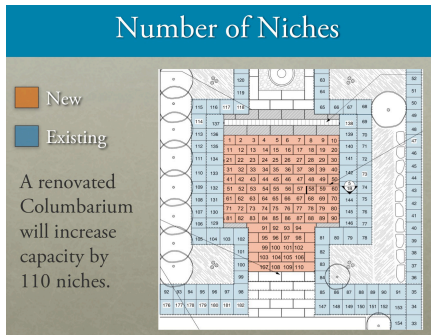
The Columbarium is designed to hold the ashes of 728 persons in marked niches. Another 9 persons have had their ashes scattered in the garden.

Why are we talking about the Columbarium now?

It is near capacity and overdue for renovation.

What has been done?

Parishioner Bob Leland took the initiative to study what needed to be done and developed a preliminary plan to expand the Columbarium. The vestry took the next step, retaining a landscape architect to study alternative



designs. The vestry approved a design that adds 110 spaces without subtracting from the garden area and open space. There will be a fountain below the cross at the back of the Columbarium and new plantings.

What will it cost?

The total cost, including design and construction, is expected to be \$200,000.

What will it look like?

The landscape architect's renderings may be seen on the monitors in the Common. On request, we will also sit down with you to show you those renderings, and more.

Can the church afford this project?

Yes, and no. The operating budget does not have money in it for a project of this size, nor are there sufficient funds left from the capital campaign, although it has already paid approximately \$50,000 in design fees to date. There are a number of parishioners who have been on a waiting list for spaces in the Columbarium and others who have expressed interest in securing space. There are also those whose family's ashes are interred already, who are eager to see the space returned to its former beauty. The project should pay for itself, through the sale of niches and contributions.

How can I learn more?

Contact the undersigned. We are eager to talk about the project—and to get it done.

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