

Pew Refurbishment Project Summer 2014

St. Michael's pew refurbishment project began June 9, 2014. Henning Church & Historical Restoration LLC out of Forest Lake, MN was hired to complete the project. Henning Restoration is the same company that painted the church back in the 1990's.

The project was done in house to help save on the wear and tear of moving the long pews to a separate location. With age and drying, they are more susceptible to being split apart at the center seam where the two halves join together.

The process of refinishing involves the following:

1. The old varnish is removed by applying a chemical agent then scraping it off.
2. Minor repairs are performed involving gluing larger wood spits or filling in small crevices and nail holes with putty.
3. A light sanding is performed to remove minor scratches and abrasions.
4. Four reinforcement laths are applied underneath the seat to help hold the two main planks of the seat together.
5. A new stain is applied.
6. The entire pew is given a coat of varnish.
7. The top seat and seat backs were given a second coat after the above steps have been completed on all pews.
8. The kneelers were washed and a single coat of varnish was applied.
9. New kneeler pads were installed; the pads were upholstered by Barons, a local upholstery company.

Sections of pews were cordoned off and plastic tenting was placed over the area to eliminate dust.





Daily Mass was moved to the church basement to allow workers to arrive early and work late. Funerals., weddings and weekend Masses were held in the church.

The project was funded by parishioners through Sunday donations, through our special Repair and Replacement Fund and with a special bequest St. Michael's received from the Con Whalen Jr. Family. Note: Each year \$20,000 is budgeted for ongoing Repair and Replacement projects. The cost of the project was bid out at \$68,600 and an additional \$13,000 for the kneelers.

Though we contracted with Henning Church & Historical Restoration, we relied on the assistance of parishioners to help us reinforce our kneelers and attaché new kneeler pads. Our thanks to some of the folks who were able to assist us :

Gwyndale Bayne, Kevin Bosch, Paul Clark, Tim Davis, Don Foley, Joe Ford, Fr. Greg Haman, Joe Hendrickx, Natalie Johnson, Steve Johnson, David Kohlmeier, Ernie Korynta, Jason Larson, Paul Meagher, Allan Page, Scott Palmiscno , Bryce Reller, Mychael Reller, Bill Vasicek, Ronnie Verzosa, John Wasylow, Greg Weiland, Bob Wocken, Jeremy Worden, Jennifer Wynne, Wayne Young



Volunteers removing kneelers from the church.

Pictured L to R: Bob Wocken, Ronnie Verzosa, Paul Meagher, David Kohlmeier



The kneelers removed from the pew and worked on in the School Gym.



Pictured on the far right is Father Greg Haman, our new associate, helping with the kneelers in the school gym.



Pictured L to R: Phil Brown, Cathy Brown, Chuck, Scott Palmiseno, Pat Svoboda, Jim Laturus,, unkown.

Work on this project was completed August 31, 2014. Before this project, the pews were last refinished in 1985. At that time, all of the woodwork in the church, including the pews were refinished.

We were pleased with the result to help beautify our worship space. We are grateful for the support and generosity of parishioners who take ownership of their worship space. Thanks again to the many volunteers who helped with the kneelers. God bless you!