AEDIFICATIO DEI

Catholic Diocese of Arlington
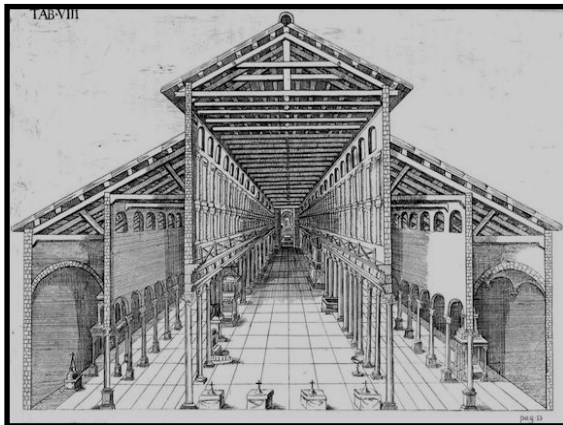### *Office of Planning, Construction and Facilities*

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- Going Green
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A VISION FOR OUR FUTURE

Early Christian churches weren't all that different from other buildings of the time. Beginning with Constantine's *Edict of Milan*, when Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire, the features of imperial Rome became fundamentally tied to Christianity. While Western religious beliefs share many architectural styles and forms, parishes here in the Catholic Diocese of Arlington are enthusiastically embracing our unique Catholic history in planning and design of their new sacred buildings and spaces.

The projects underway across the Diocese (see next page) build on the vernacular forms of Roman times. Immediately recognizable and beautiful, these new spaces overcome the many shortcomings of our current mid-century modern churches, and will assist worshipers in realizing new and deeper encounters with their community and the Divine.

Old St. Peter's Basilica, Rome, from: Giovanni Ciampini, *De sacris aedificiis a Constantino Magno constructis: synopsis historica*, 1693, p. 33

Q & A

Q: What does the Diocese do with a 3% OPCF fee?

A: A parish will pay 3% of the construction cost (projects up to $7.5 million) once construction of a project begins. This fee covers approximately half of the total annual operating cost of OPCF, enabling professional architects, engineers and contract specialists to oversee large renovation and construction projects on behalf of the Bishop.

Q: What does a Design-Build project look like?

A: In Design-Build (DB) the design professional is hired directly by the construction manager, as opposed to being hired by the parish. This varies from traditional construction (Design-Bid-Build) where the owner hires an architect for the design, and then contracts separately for construction of the project.

The goal of the DB team is to *design the project based on the owner's budget, while making trade-offs of the owner's requirements*. The DB method provides an early guarantee of cost and schedule. Most importantly, the design-build approach creates single-source accountability, limiting the potential for conflicts and finger pointing during construction.

GOING GREEN

To reduce their cost operations, several parishes are considering adding solar panels to their property . Fortunately, this can often be done using other people's money and expertise through an energy contract referred to as a *Power Purchase Agreement*.

Several commercial energy firms offer "turn-key" services including design, development, management and the capital needed to pay for your installation without debt financing or risk of ownership. Your parish may be able to reduce utility expenses and demonstrate a commitment to cleaner energy, while reducing overall energy consumption.

Contact our office if you would like more information

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In Progress

Holy Spirit Parish - Annandale
Planned Narthex Construction (2020)

St. Lawrence Parish - Alexandria
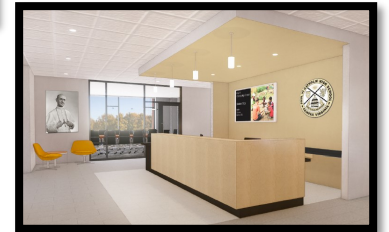Planned Narthex Construction (2019)

St. Ambrose Parish - Annandale
Planned Church Schematic Design

Paul VI HS - Loudoun Campus
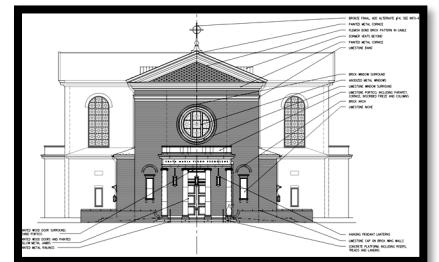School Construction Underway (2019)

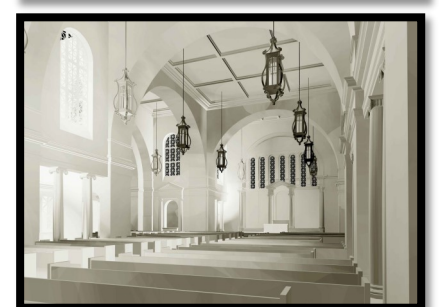**Paul VI HS - Loudoun Campus**
Renderings (2019)

Bishop O'Connell HS
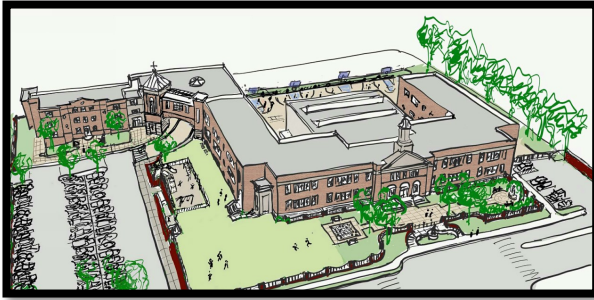School Addition Underway (2019)
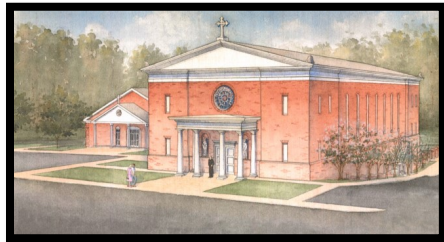

Bishop Ireton HS
School Addition Underway (2019)

St. Mary of Sorrows
Planned Church Construction (2019)
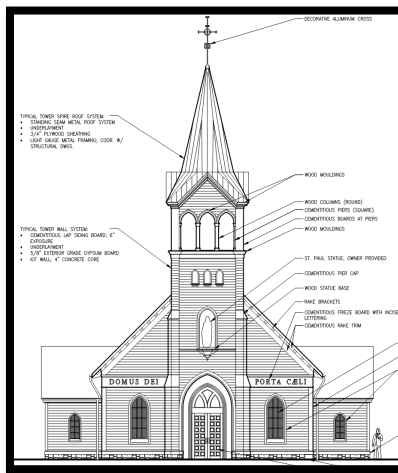
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Basilica of St Mary School - Alexandria
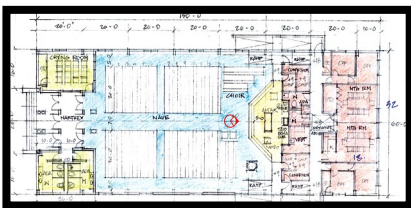Planned School Addition/Master Plan (2020)
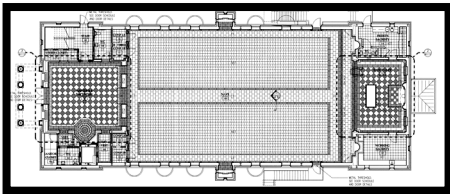
St. Patrick - Fredericksburg
Planned Church Construction (2019)

St. Paul Mission - The Hague
Planned Church Construction (2019)

St. William of York - Stafford
Planned Narthex Construction (2019)

St. Katharine Drexel - Haymarket
Planned Church—Schematic Design

Basilica of St Mary School - Alexandria
Planned School Improvements (2020)

Corpus Christi - South Riding
Planned Church—Schematic Design