

Rose Evans

From: Kevin Casey
To: office@taurangamoanacatholic.nz
Subject: The Needs of a Growing Tauranga Catholic Community

Dear Fr Mark

This is a matter that has a meeting on Thursday the 19th October at 7pm when I will unfortunately be at a conference in Rotorua.

I have read through the October hand-out and I would like the following to be read on my behalf if possible at the meeting:

Fr, it is my view that the expenditure of \$3,000,000 for an underground car-park on the Elizabeth Street, First Avenue site cannot be justified. A new car-park is being developed at the end of First Avenue, some 250 metres away from the current church. There can in my view be no justification for spending that amount of money for an underground car-park.

The indications are that in addition to bring the First Avenue site up to date and providing the facilities that are expected of a modern parish, re-cladding meeting rooms, driveways, seating and other sundry costs which may total a further \$5,000,000 is an inappropriate use of money.

It is my submission to the Parish that there are far more practicable ways of resolving issues in Tauranga than with the expenditure of this amount of money on the current church. It would be my submission that if it is the wish to redevelop First Avenue, consideration to other alternatives whereby a church can be retained within the heart of Tauranga city be considered.

It is my belief that Tauranga is never going to be able to have more than two Priests, given the shortage of Priests. That the formal parish structure of 30 years ago is not likely to be the structure of the Church going forward. Our congregation is aging, and that new ideas as to how a vibrant parish community might exist need to be considered, rather than the expenditure of a substantial sum on a facility which in some people's eyes does not meet our current needs."

I would be grateful if this viewpoint could be provided at the meeting.

Yours faithfully

Kevin Casey Consultant

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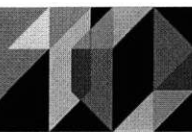
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