

Making Space for God's Grace: Cube-It by Cube-It

You've all heard of cubits: that's how Noah measured the ark he had to build. "And God said: This is how to make it: the length of the ark is to be 300 cubits, its breadth 50 cubits, and its height 30 cubits." (Genesis 6:15)

Noah hadn't planned on building an ark; he had a full and content life before God started talking about rain. But when he realized he wouldn't be able to stay on his property any longer, he figured it would be best to go ahead and build the ark, and do it according to the plans God had approved. Well, we're kind of in the same boat, as it were. We had it pretty good here, until it became clear we can't stay on this property. And so we've figured it'll be best to go ahead and build a new church according to the plans the Bishop has approved.

Using high school algebra, we can figure that Noah's ark came to about 300,000 cubic cubits. At 18 inches to a cubit (elbow to the fingertips), and then converting to metric, the ark had a volume of about 29,000 cubic meters, or nearly 30 times the volume of our new church building (it's about 1,100 cubic meters). So God isn't challenging us very much, only about 1/30th of what he challenged Noah.

If we divide that 1,100 cubic meters (let's call them "Cube-Its") of new church volume into the various uses we plan for it, we come up with the following uses of the space:

Worship space :	380 Cube-Its	That's the nave, the altar area, and the sacristy.
Celebration space:	350 Cube-Its	That's the hall.
Service space:	230 Cube-Its	Includes kitchen, mtg rm, storage, bathrooms, utility.
Education space:	140 Cube-Its	Includes library and offices.
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>1,100 Cube-Its</u>	

Now in order to complete the building, we're going to have to fund-raise at least \$110,000. So that comes to \$100 per Cube-It.

As part of the new Diocesan annual appeal, we're offering 500 Cube-Its to be purchased at \$100 each. If they are all purchased, we will have raised \$50,000 for the new church. You can select the Cube-Its of your choice: Worship Cube-Its, Celebration Cube-Its, Service Cube-Its, or Education Cube-Its. Which and how many will it be? And remember, they can be purchased all at once, or paid for over the course of the year.

There will be further opportunity to buy Cube-Its – oh, you bet there will. The remaining 600 Cubits can be purchased in a variety of ways: by donation of stocks or bonds, by giving a bequest through your will, by naming the parish as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy---not every Cube-It has to be paid out of your wallet. More information will be coming ... right after the Diocesan Appeal. Now, how many Cube-Its did you say you wanted to buy as part of the first Diocesan appeal? Write it on the pledge card!

Thank you! and may God bless you with gentle rains this winter to renew the face of the earth!

Fr. Mike and The St. Rose Parish Fun(d)raising Committee