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April 8, 2002

Wayne Rudd, President
Rudd Construction, Inc.
0132 Park Avenue
Basalt, Colorado 81621

Re: St. Mary Church
Rectory Renovation

Dear Wayne:

I wanted to express my sincere thanks for the help your company has given us during the past 15 years working on the facilities owned by St. Mary Parish in Aspen.

In 1986 we began a major effort to renovate and restore our buildings so the priests, religious and lay people could serve the parish family for the next century in the same way the existing buildings have served the parish family for the past 100 years, plus.

Our first project was the structural repair of the roof and floor, plus renovation of the church. This was badly needed, as the side walls were being held together by tie-rods spanning the nave, which was very dangerous as well as unsightly. One of your superintendents, Dave Dietrich, carefully and lovingly rebuilt the trusses that had been installed by the miners and merchants in 1892. This enabled us to remove the tie-rods, and the resulting visual openness of the interior space was especially rewarding. The pews were removed and refinished, the church floor strengthened by the addition of micro-lams and a new, in-floor heat system installed. The mechanical system was upgraded, as well as the electrical system, including new and modern lighting.

A couple of years later, we followed that with the addition of the elevator and modification of the entry to the church. The elevator was sorely needed, as those with injuries and infirmities were hard pressed to get to the upper level to attend Mass and other services, and the difficulty in getting a casket to the church level was difficult indeed. Dave Dietrich was the superintendent on this work also.

In 1996 Rudd Construction finalized the reconstruction and reconfiguration of the downstairs offices, sleeping areas, kitchen and classrooms. This enabled our pastor to move the administrative offices out of the rectory. A large meeting hall was constructed, which incorporated folding acoustical partitions allowing us to create seven classrooms for smaller meeting spaces and religious education classes. Restroom facilities were built, plus a two bedroom apartment for staff and a bunkroom for guests. Finally and very importantly, a commercial kitchen was constructed which allows the parish to host numerous parish functions serving food, not the least of which is the St. Patrick Day Dinner, which just celebrated it's 114th annual event. The superintendent on this work was Johnny Walker, and he attended to this work with care and attention.

Shortly after that, Rudd made repairs to the belfry and painted the steeple. Again, Dave Dietrich enjoyed working on the church, and had the best view of town from the scaffolding that surrounded the bell tower for about a month.

Finally, your company has successfully completed the restoration and modernization of the 114 year old rectory and addition of quarters for our church staff. The rectory was completely gutted, rooms reconfigured, electrical and mechanical systems brought into 21st century code compliance, and the interior was restored and upgraded to Victorian fineness. We renovated and upgraded the apartment which is within the rectory building and added a new building which has basement storage with freight elevator, a three car garage at ground level and a two bedroom apartment on the second floor. Finally, the sitework was upgraded, including new landscaping and drainage systems. John Hawkins took a deep personal interest in this project, and for that, I'm very grateful.

Mark Pryzbylski has always been very much a part of these projects, and has been a source of thoughtfulness during our many meetings, working to create innovative solutions to the problems that are a part of working with old buildings.

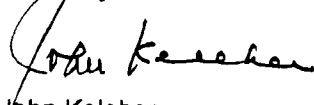
Greg Nelson and Scott Duryea, as project managers, were constant in their efforts to provide the best quality project for the available funds. They worked diligently in trying to find the best qualified subcontractors at the right price, and always looking for the quality materials that fit within our budget.

Susan Van Cleve and the office staff were always very helpful and courteous in keeping track of the billings, so thanks to them for their assistance.

And of course I'd be remiss if I didn't recognize the value that Max Goracke always brought to the work. His contributions are immeasurable.

Again, thanks very much to you and all of the crew at Rudd Construction. As a consequence, we have a facility that will last the parish many years – on to the next generation.

Sincerely,



John Keleher
Owner's Representative
St. Mary Church