



THE DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

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Diocese of Charleston Purchases Land for New Chancery Building

(CHARLESTON, SC) - The Diocese of Charleston has purchased land in West Ashley where it will build a new Chancery building. The property is located at the eastern end of Orange Grove Road. "This is exciting news for the diocese," said the Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmone, Bishop of Charleston. "Our new Chancery will consolidate operations which are currently in five different buildings scattered across the Charleston area. It will accommodate the needs of our growing diocese."

The diocese paid \$1,050,000 for 26.5 acres of land, of which 21.75 acres is marshland. It plans to construct one or more buildings of at least 30,000 square feet on the accessible 4.75 acres on the site. The diocese was able to use money from its operating reserves to purchase the land. It is too early in the process to estimate the total cost of construction; diocesan officials are currently arranging financing. "We are committed to being good stewards of the financial resources given to us by the Catholic faithful throughout the diocese," said Bishop Guglielmone.

The new Chancery will be state-of-the art. It will house the bishop's office, diocesan offices, an assembly hall, a chapel, and at least one conference room with video conferencing capability. It will be an active facility which will be utilized by diocesan staff and the parish parishioners across the state.

The actual construction of the building will be "environmentally friendly". Diocesan officials are working with an arborist to ensure builders do not endanger the trees or wetlands on the property. The completed structure will be LEED Certified. LEED provides building owners with a framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction and operations.

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Diocesan officials plan on breaking ground on the new Chancery building in 2013 with construction completed in 2014.

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About the Diocese of Charleston

The Catholic Diocese of Charleston comprises the entire state of South Carolina with Charleston as its See city. Founded in 1820 by Pope Pius VII, it is one of the oldest Catholic dioceses in the United States.