

# St. Joseph Apache Mission Restoration Project



*Illustrated Progress Report for November 2005 through April 2006*



Arylis & Tommy repointing stonework



Brother David repointing in alcove



Chris LaPaz of *Mescalero Apache Telecom, Inc* digging trenches for lights along the steps.



Restoration Crew installed conduit for electrical upgrade work.





Indoor conduit is embedded in the mortar joints in the west wall interior.

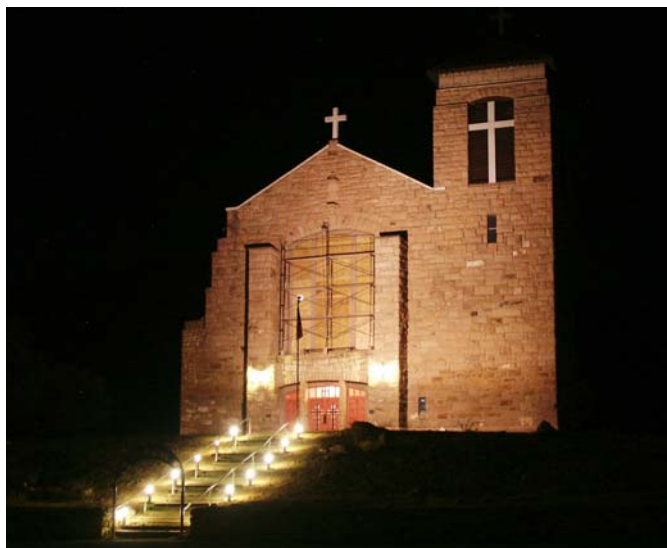


Shanti Electric crew running new electrical lines



Wall sconces that hang at the church entrance were repaired, repainted and rewired.

Shining like a beacon:  
A night time view of the church  
with the all-new outdoor lighting.



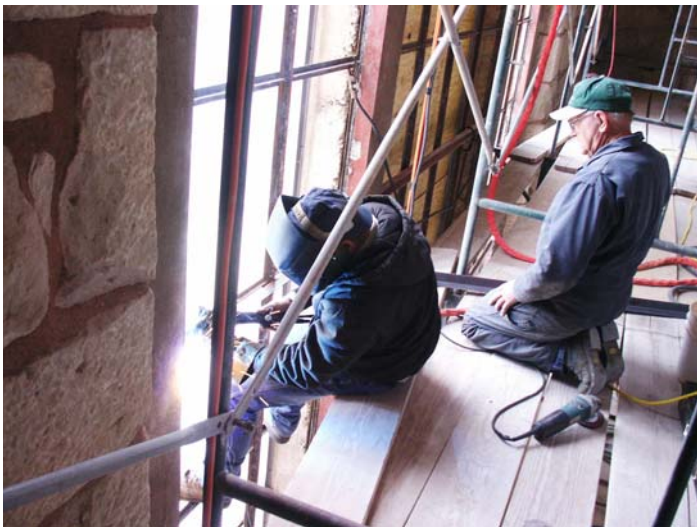




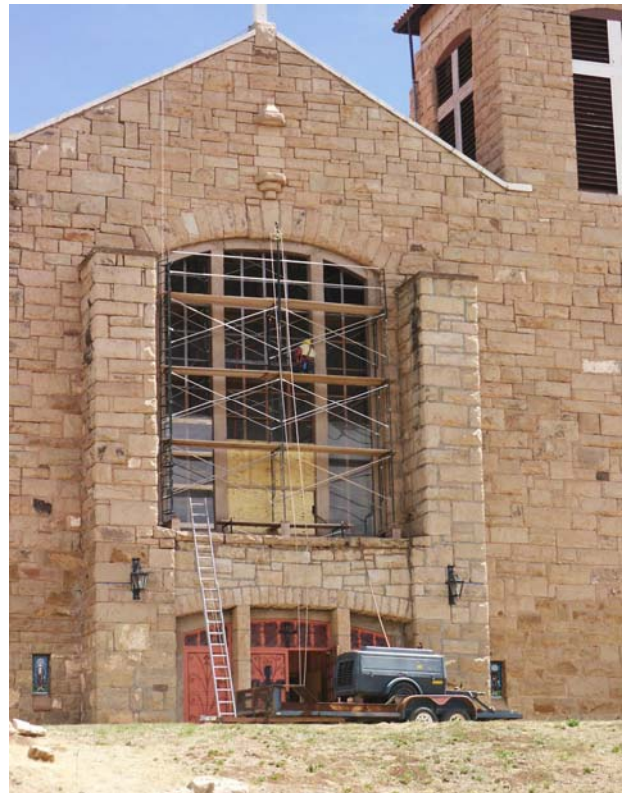
Closeup of west window before work began



Tommy removing old Plexiglas



Carroll and Lonnie repairing metal framework



Ricky Jones sandblasting metal frame



Bro. David and Arylis installing new window panels



# *St. Joseph Apache Mission Restoration Project*

*Progress Report*  
*November 2005-April 2006*

Peter A. Boegel, OFM  
Project Director  
Mary M. Serna  
Project Administrator  
(505) 464-4539

Website: [www.stjosephmission.org](http://www.stjosephmission.org)  
Email: [petrus@matisp.net](mailto:petrus@matisp.net)

Time flies! We have begun our seventh year of fulltime work on the restoration of this beloved church and veteran's memorial. We are happy to see spring arrive and are looking forward to a new group of trainees for the summer.

The past six months have been very productive. The crew finished strengthening and repointing the stonework of the interior of the west wall: another milestone! Repointing work was also accomplished in the southwest alcove. In addition to this we have nearly finished replacing the window of the west wall, and had some major electrical upgrading work done on the west end of the church. We are quite pleased to announce that we received a grant of \$2,500.00 from the **National Trust for Historic Preservation**, to help replace the severely damaged west window. "This is a real boost for us" said Mary Serna, our project administrator, "To have such a prestigious non-profit preservation funder invest in our project is affirmation of the significance of this historical landmark, and of the hard work that everyone is doing here." Denise Alexander from the Southwest Regional Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation came to the Mission for a site visit, she was impressed and said "The work you all have done is really top notch, and you should be proud of it!" Thank you Denise!

We were surprised to note that in the year 2005 the restoration crew hand-troweled over 27,000 pounds of mortar into the walls, setting a new record. Tommy Spottedbird credited this to our great group of hard-working trainees. Our training program is important in so many different aspects of this restoration project. We are proud to contribute to the development of the young people in our community, and it is a joy to watch them learn and grow as they develop basic job skills needed to be happy and productive members of society. Right now six local young people are applying for the three training positions we will have this coming summer,

While restoration of the stonework continued during the winter, Jim Shows and his crew at **Shanti Electric, LLC** were hired to upgrade the electrical service on the west end of the church. This work included installing new lights out in front of the church to improve safety. Jim helped make work affordable by showing us how to install the new indoor and outdoor conduit ourselves. All the work has passed NM State inspection, vastly improving the antiquated wiring on this end of the church. We are grateful to **Mescalero Apache Telecom, Inc.** for sending Chris LaPaz and a trencher to dig the new trenches needed for the outdoor lines.

We made another trip to Belen to pick up almost a ton of hydrated lime from the **Chemical Lime Company**. The Chemical Lime Company has donated all the hydrated lime for our mortar since the project began. In February the **Mescalero Apache Tribe** brought us about 20 cubic yards of sand that was donated by the family of Richard Saenz in Bent, NM. The crew shifted it and put it in the sand shed to keep it dry and clean until needed for our mortar. Ray Metcalf, the owner of **The Lock Shop** in Alamogordo came and installed a new deadbolt on the front door of the church and the two rear doors. We are so grateful for the donations and help that the Tribe and so many community members contribute to make this important project possible.

In December we had the first community “Master Plan” meeting. Now that the restoration project is nearing the half-way mark, it is time to start discussing what people want the interior of the church to look like when the restoration work is completed. In addition to members of the Restoration Committee, attendees included interior architecture consultant Mary Bloise Lucey from South Carolina, Sister Lucy Meissen, C.P.P.S. from the Diocese of Las Cruces, and Historical Preservation Architect Dale Zinn. It was a productive meeting and everyone had a chance to express their concerns and opinions. The main topic for discussion at this time is the interior entryway through the west wall. Several ideas have been generated, and once the interior scaffolding on the west wall is removed people will be better able to imagine possibilities.

The replacement of the big window in the west wall is currently underway, using funds from the **National Trust** grant, along with donations from many others – including a substantial donation from David and Irene Estores, in memory of Salvador Mison and David V. Estores. A tremendous amount of work has been required in the replacement of this window. Battered by years of harsh sunlight and strong winds this window was severely cracked and damaged. After much research we elected to use quarter inch thick *Krinklglass* © for the new window. This is a virtually unbreakable fiberglass reinforced copolymer plastic glass.

The metal framework of this window was pretty weak and had a number of broken welds. Carroll Vann owner of **CVE Machine & Welding** in High Rolls, NM along with one of his welders, Lonnie Stanbrough, came to complete the needed welding repairs and reinforcing. As he has done in the past, Mr. Vann contributed all the time and materials; he has stated that he wants to see this project completed and is doing all he can to help bring that about.

After the metal framework was repaired, **Desert Sands Stripping** of Alamogordo, NM was hired to sandblasted and paint the entire frame. The sandblasting and repainting work was expertly done by Ricky and Cathy Jones and Ricky’s Dad Mr. Paul Jones. Following the design provided by architect Dale Zinn, restoration crewmembers Tommy Spottedbird and Arylis Chee fabricated new metal window brackets to hold the new window panels in place. Throughout the process of replacing this window Gregg & Lavonne Griffin, owners of **White Mountain Glass** in Ruidoso, have given invaluable advice and help, especially in cutting the eighty new window panes – each a different size and shape!

Now that spring is here we are giving a lot of tours. This is very enjoyable for us; to share our passion for the work that is being done while helping educate the public about the many different aspects and challenges of such a large restoration project.

We are continuing our search for ways to raise the \$150,000 needed to repair and replace the clay tile roof over the main portion of the church. We are pleased with the work that was done last summer by **Smith Roofing** of Las Cruces, NM to replace the two small sections of roof on the east end of the church. We are hoping to raise this roof money within the next two years. If you know of a



group or anyone who might be interested in helping us raise the funds for this particular aspect of our project please contact us.

Since 1998 we have raised \$933,740 for the restoration project. Of that amount 37% came from private foundation grants, 48% from individual and group donations, 15% came from fundraising activities along with interest earned. The Stewardship Program of people who donate monthly, our “Restoration Heroes” have contributed \$46,880 since that program began in May 2003. Our total expenses to date add up to \$863,347. Seventy one percent of these funds have been used for labor and training expenses. As of April 30, 2006 the balance in the restoration fund was \$70,394. Income from this reporting period (November 1, 2005 – April 30, 2006) was \$53,896 and expenses were \$83,117. InKind value from donations of time and services for this period \$58,100. Since 1998 we have raised \$933,740for this restoration project. Of that amount 37% came from private foundation grants, 48% from individual and group donations, 15% came from fundraising activities along with interest earned. The Stewardship Program of people who donate monthly, our “Restoration Heroes,” have contributed \$46,880 since that program began in May 2003. Our total expenses to date add up to \$863,347. Seventy one percent of these funds have been used for labor and training expenses. As of April 30, 2006 the balance in the restoration fund was \$70,394. InKind value from donations of time and services since the project started has been \$639,287.

Thus far we have received grants or major donations from the Stockman Family Foundation, the Frank J. Lewis Foundation, the William R. and Virginia Hayden Foundation, the Robert and Evelyn McKee Foundation, the Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, the Naudin Foundation, the Burkitt Foundation (through the El Paso Community Foundation), the Rayonier Foundation, Katherine D. Ortega through the Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program, the Johnston-Lemon Group, Inc., the Chatlos Foundation, the LEF Foundation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, The Native Plant Society Otero Chapter, the Franciscan Friars of the Saint Barbara Province, Saints Simon & Paul Parish in Huntington Beach, CA, Clarence Brown, Cecil Russell, Paul & Carmen Brusuelas, Louis Burluson, Barrett & Patty Covington, Robert & Nancy Hanagan, Joseph & Barbara Kelly, Bruce & Helen Klinekole, Richard & Mary Sue Mackey, Jesus & Rosario Ontiveros, Michael Sell, Jeffrey & Marie Spara and the Estate of Benjamin Vaitus.

Enclosed is a financial statement for the past six months, along with an illustrated progress report showing the important work you helped support. Also enclosed is the latest issue of our Restoration Project newsletter, “The Burden Basket.” This semiannual publication is sent to all of our donors, while this more detailed Progress Report is sent to supporting foundations, major donors, and other interested people.

### **One final word:**

It is difficult to describe the feeling people have about this church and veteran’s memorial. At our first Master Plan meeting, we each took a turn to respond to the question, “**What is one thing you appreciate about this church?**” The answers were astounding. Joan Treas, the parish secretary, simply stated that “With the artwork and awesomeness of the building, this church makes me proud to be Apache.” We are grateful to the many people who have helped make this project successful. The Restoration Committee thanks you for your involvement. It is our goal to continue to strive for excellence in our work. Together we are committed to guaranteeing that this beloved landmark, veteran’s memorial and active parish church will continue to meet the needs of the many people who come here. We trust that you are proud of the work that you are supporting: “Restoring the Building and Rebuilding Lives.”