

To: <comms@ivanhoecatholics.com>

Subject: Re: The master Plan

Date: Fri 12/26/2008 08:40 AM

Dear Hanh Nguyen,

I am writing to reply to your argument re: the Parish Master Plan. I understand your outrage, and even your rage against the demolishing of such a Sacred Place. However, I, as MOG rep. on the PLT, must defend MOG's position.

These are very difficult times. We have two churches, and two presbyteries that are in dire need of some TLC. We have dwindling numbers, dwindling funds and ageing priests.

When I came to the PLT in Feb. this year, we were in the mode to sell MOG presbytery and use the funds to have a one Mass Centre at MI. MOG church was going to be closed for Sunday Masses, only to be opened for school ceremonies, funerals etc. Hanh, I know your feelings well, because we at MOG, have felt them before you.

I must refute however, your accusation that Mother of God spends more that it raises. (proof?) That MOG always takes advantage of the other churches on the west sides of Ivanhoe. (proof?)

I am the MOG rep. and I was not on the Executive Committee that proffered this report. However, there were at least two MI reps. on the Executive. I was not privy to the entire development until a few days before it became public knowledge.

Change is very difficult. Change often hurts. Creating something new is often messy and painful. This Parish new plan may not be the way to go, but attacking MOG will be of no benefit to anyone.

Wishing you a Happy New Year, in which we will discuss our problems, and a mutually agreeable outcome will be achieved.

Warm Regards

Isma Chiera