January 10, 2016

The liturgical celebrations in the ballroom are nothing new in the long history of College Church. The foundation, as you might expect, was finished first for our new building in 1885. The sacraments were celebrated in that completed space (now our ballroom) for over a decade until money was raised to finish the rest of the church. Sound familiar?

Then in the mid-sixties a faith community grew out of the convergence of the liturgical reforms of Vatican II, the SLU community and the young Jesuits in first studies on campus. Masses were held in the “lower church” for close to two decades. There are a number of parishioners today who were part of that community as students and young adults. I leave it to them to disclose just how long ago that was.

Finally, during the extended renovation of the church from 1989-90 we once again moved below ground. I remember this quite well as I was a SLU senior at that time. Now we are back for a very brief return to our roots. What was old is new again. Truly, a back to the future experience.

Fr. Dan White, S.J.