

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-_____

RE: CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS UNDER THE
PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
LEGISLATURE 1961, JUNE 13, P.L. 282 (53
SECTION 8004) AND BETHLEHEM ORDINANCE NO.
3952 AS AMENDED.

WHEREAS, it is proposed to secure a COA to modify the stone retaining wall
along East Fourth Street, restore the side entrance to the rectory, repair the wall between the
church and rectory and install an entrance into the rectory basement at 312 East Fourth
Street.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of
Bethlehem that a Certificate of Appropriateness is hereby granted for the proposal.

Sponsored by: (s)_____

(s)_____

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL THIS DAY OF , 2026.

(s)_____
President of Council

ATTEST:

(s)_____
City Clerk

HISTORIC CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CASE #887 -- The Applicant proposes to modify the stone retaining wall along East Fourth Street, restore the side entrance to the rectory, repair the wall between the church and rectory and install an entrance into the rectory basement at 312 East Fourth Street.

OWNER / APPLICANT: Holy Infancy Roman Catholic Church / Joseph McCarthy

The Commission upon motion by Mr. Chambers and seconded by Mr. Evans adopted the proposal that City Council issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed work as presented, with modifications described herein:

1. The proposal to modify the stone retaining wall along East Fourth Street, restore the side entrance to the rectory, repair the wall between the church and rectory and install an entrance into the rectory basement was presented by Andrew Gehringer, Joseph McCarthy and Joseph Sedler.
2. Appropriate details for various modifications include:
 - a. height of stone retaining wall at front (north) of rectory property can be reduced during needed renovations to minimum 30-inches above adjacent public right-of-way (sidewalk)
 - b. new entrance into rectory basement includes stucco parging applied to exterior concrete block walls and standing-seam metal shed roof
 - c. existing (non-historic) enclosure at side porch leading into rectory will be carefully removed, with historical building materials repaired in-kind, as needed; any resulting changes to roof and/or support systems require subsequent HCC assessment

The motion was unanimously approved, with Mr. Chambers, Mr. Evans, Mr. Lader and Ms. Strasser voting in favor of the motion. Based upon the oral report made by the Historic Officer and the presentation of the Applicant, the Commission found that the proposal adheres to Bethlehem Ordinance 1714.03 'Purposes of the Historic Conservation District'.

JBL: jbl

By: Jet Lab

Date of Meeting: August 17, 2026

Title: Historic Officer