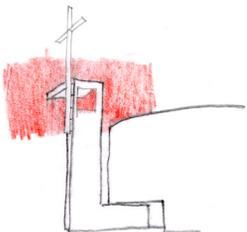
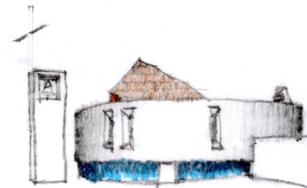
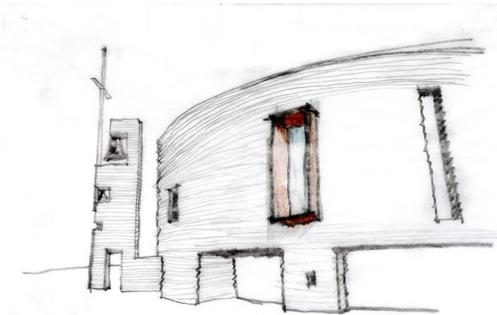
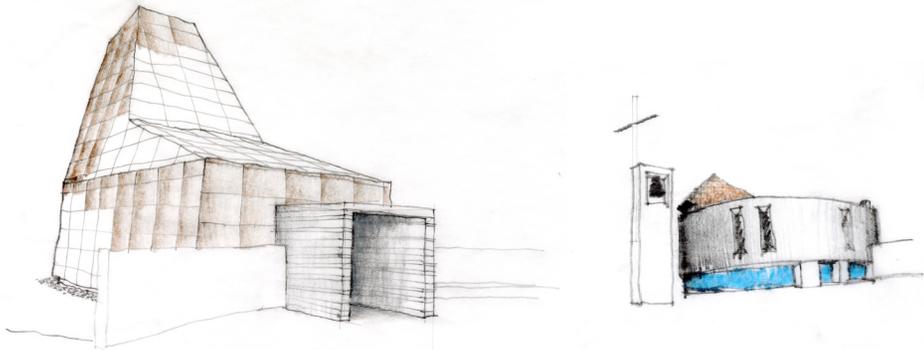


SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER CATHOLIC CHURCH

This religious project serves as a place of worship for a Catholic community in West Jordan, Utah. The project includes a large entry and gathering space; elliptical sanctuary space that seats 800; accessory support, liturgical, and vesting spaces; administrative offices and conference space; a separate Day Chapel building for daily mass, and a circular courtyard with a central water/fire feature.

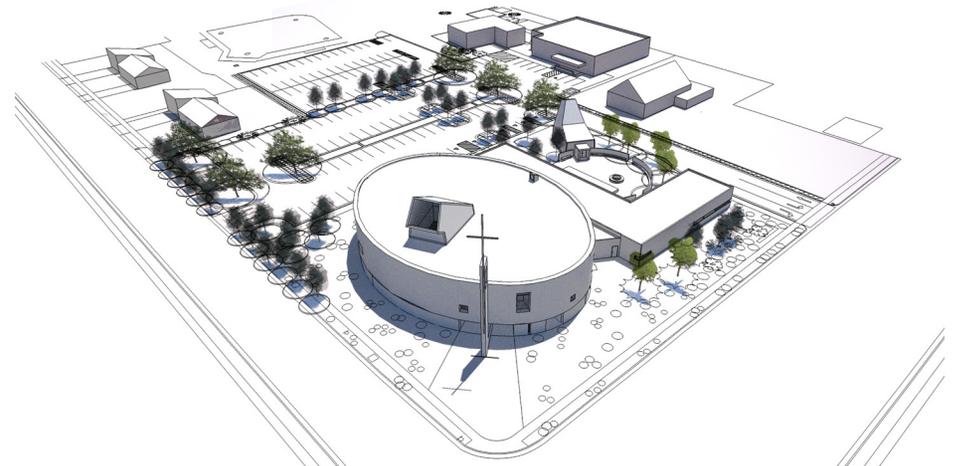
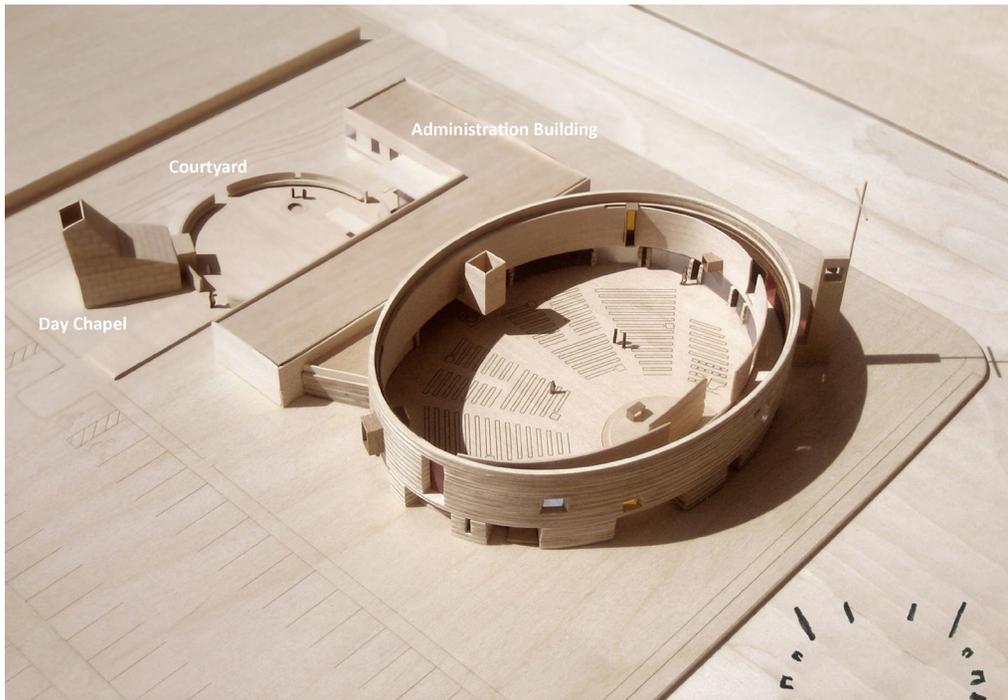


Bingham Canyon Copper Mine

Named for the patron saint of laborers, this parish church has a rich history and cultural lineage rooted in the practices of construction trades and craftspeople. The project is located in a working class neighborhood near the Bingham Canyon Copper Mine, the deepest open pit mine in the world, and major employer in the area. Immigrants came to this part of Utah to work in the mines or on the railroad and stayed, living as minorities in a state dominated by another religion. A modest church, now demolished, was built in 1965 on the site by the tradespeople of the parish. The design of the new church re-uses fundamental elements of the old structure, and incorporates new steel, copper and hand-crafted wood components to reference the parish's mining and construction history.

SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Drawing from this lineage, a palette of materials was selected that express the transformation of the raw material by the worker, revealing the craft and method of construction. These materials include textural walls of board-formed concrete, constructed in the traditional method of stacking rough sawn lumber; a rainscreen of clear milled cedar; vertical grain fir boards and timbers used to create the altar reredos and interior of the Day Chapel; flat seam copper panels form the cladding for the Day Chapel and skylight structure over the altar; and glazing components requiring a highly crafted assembly of laminated glazing with color inter-layers, acid etched glazing, and clear glass insulated units with mullion-less corners. The design harkens back to the mining history of the early parish, and details ordinary materials to become extraordinary.



SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER CATHOLIC CHURCH



The sanctuary geometry is composed of two offset ellipses of which the outer ellipse contains the liturgical chapels and niches, and the inner ellipse completes the main sanctuary space. These offset ellipses give the sense that the outer walls of the sanctuary are thickened (as much as 10' at the furthest separation), referencing the uninhabitable *poche* wall - a rich historical precedent in sacred architecture - now rendered habitable for liturgical functions. The depth of the walls is visible via a series of colored apertures that extend through the thickened wall. The space changes throughout the day with the color of the apertures growing more intense when highlighted by the sun: colored light washes the space, reflecting on the floor, walls, and ceiling, the color dimming as night falls.

