



Queen of Peace

Catholic Church

August 21, 2025

City of Dickinson
Board of Adjustment

Dear Board of Adjustment Members,

The purpose of the bell tower with its three bells is to fill the community with the beautiful sound of bells. Throughout the centuries, the sound of bells has caused men and women to raise their minds to God, to think of him, to remind us of heaven, and to bring joy to the heart. More specifically,

1. The bells will mark the top of the hour and the half hour, from morning to dusk.
2. For funerals at Queen of Peace when the hearse arrives, the death toll will ring once for each year the deceased had lived.
3. They will call the faithful to worship each day by ringing five minutes before Mass.
4. They will play the Angelus at noon and 3:00pm, according to Catholic custom.
5. They will ring with joyful jubilation for special occasions, like after Christmas Mass and Easter Mass, at the end of Wedding Masses as the bride and groom are walking out of the Church, at the end of First Communion and Confirmation Masses, etc.

Without the variance, the bells will not be high enough to be heard throughout the community. It would dramatically reduce the travel of their sound. Also, they would not be higher than our church wall, so it could be overly loud in the church itself.

A noteworthy point is that the elevation of the tower with the variance would still be several feet less than the bottom of the water tower on Rocky Butte Park, which is located just to the southeast of the proposed site of the bell tower.

Sincerely,

Msgr. Tom Richter, Pastor