



ST. NORBERT ABBEY

Statement by St. Norbert Abbey on Monona Drive Property

De Pere, Wis.— (December 4, 2019) St. Norbert Abbey has issued the following statement regarding their property on Monona Drive:

St. Norbert Abbey contracted with Hoffman Planning, Design & Construction, Inc. to begin demolition of the Frank Allis House located at 4123 Monona Drive. Logistics regarding the demolition will be scheduled following the outcome of the Monona City Landmarks Commission meeting on December 11.

The Frank Allis house was deeded to St. Norbert Abbey located in De Pere, Wisconsin in 1929 by Margaret and Joanna Mahoney. The property was used as a Novitiate and a house of studies for the Norbertines from 1929 until 1975. From 1975 until 2015 the property was leased to the Capuchin Province of St. Joseph as a retreat house and home for elderly religious. During this period, the property was known as San Damiano Friary.

“The decision to demolish the house was made after assessing a number of issues with the structure,” said Abbot Dane Radecki, O. Praem. “We determined that it is not feasible to further invest in the house due to maintenance needs requiring substantial investment.”

At this time, St. Norbert Abbey is not selling this property nor developing it for other purposes. Arrangements have been made to maintain the property following demolition of the house. St. Norbert Abbey is committed to protecting the environment and is working with Hoffman to demolish the house in a safe and environmentally friendly way.

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