

PICTORIAL HISTORY OF TANJAY CHURCH DOME



16 Oct 2012

Inside the church, starting with ceiling penetration. A few years earlier all the 20 pillars supporting the roof had been removed.



16 Oct 2012

Roof preparation



18 Oct 2012



21 Oct 2012

Seems like octagonal bent metal tube frame



23-Oct 2012

Seems frame is flimsy. Any building permit?



7 Jan 2013

Seems like metal sheet (GI or SS?) over frame



10 Jan 2013

Seems like metal sheet welded together



12 Feb 2013

How structurally safe is this roof weight addition?



2 Mar 2013

Metal sheet primed



14 Mar 2013

Windows installed. How is waterproofing?



3 Apr 2013

White coat of paint



30 Jul 2013

Completed dome with paint finish

At a party this noon, discussions were rife over this controversial construction by the previous church administration, hence this set of photos pulled out from my old files. Questions: shouldn't dome be properly supported by new pillars? If so, will the dome last long enough to make it worthwhile? Why not just demolish it? Danny Gil, 2 Jan 2015

ADDENDA:

Finally, the new church administration is doing something about the unsafe dome.

Starting about 3 weeks ago, the preparation for the placing of beams under the dome was underway. As a back-grounder, the former Tanjay parish priest (Fr Bohol) for almost 8 years literally destroyed the church, much to the disgust of most of the parishioners. He high-handedly had "special projects" for the alleged church improvement which started off by the demolition of the pillars supporting the roof. This is a long story which is documented in various write-ups on this blogsite. Then there was the replacement of the elegant but simple wooden altar and its surroundings by a cacophony of columns, niches, canopy, figures of saints (with oversize heads), blue neon lighting, that gave the impression of a grotesque pagoda trying to look Catholic.

The height of Fr Bohol's folly was the dome. It was unsupported by any roof strengthening. Within a year, cracks appeared on the walls in the alter area. Just like most of these projects, the work was undertaken by a group of workmen from out of town, hired by Fr Bohol. It was them who reportedly warned that in time, the dome would come crashing down.

Fortunately, parishioners do care, and one of them, former vice-mayor and present political/business activist and candidate Nilo Tam, donated a million pesos for the repair.



Strengthening of wall



Scaffolding for assembly of second steel beam



First steel beam which eventually will be covered

We met at the airport a lady who comes from Dauin, the town south of Dumaguete where Fr Bohol now is the parish priest. She mentioned that church attendance is dropping due to his long, scolding sermons. She heard about how he had destroyed the Tanjay church, but they the parishioners won't allow him to touch their old church. I was glad to know that history is not repeating itself in Dauin, at least not that completely as what had happened in Tanjay.

After all, one has to be Christian in spirit, though I am sure they may still be others who look upon the steel beam as an ideal place to hang somebody from.

Danny Gil, 15 Oct 2015