

Improvement Projects for 2021

Hello Everyone,

Jan. 1, 2021

Fire Suppression System

Over the last couple of years we have had to have our service vendor come out and repair several leaks in the pipes in the fire suppression system that is in place in the Church and narthex building. These are the pipes in the ceilings that carry the water to the fire sprinkler heads. The way this system works is that there is an air compressor that keeps constant air pressure in the pipes. If the air pressure drops below a certain point, water is released into the system. This can happen in a couple of ways. If there is a fire and the sprinkler heads become hot, they open up releasing the pressure and water comes in. The other way is if leaks occur in the piping. If enough of these air leaks occur at the same time, the pressure could drop enough that the whole system would flood and we could experience extensive water damage. This pressure is monitored by the compressor. The more frequently the compressor runs, the more leaks and the more trips our vendor makes.

At the time the system was installed, the recommended piping was used. However, time has shown that this piping does not stand the test of time. Our vendor is strongly recommending that we address this issue fairly soon and replace the piping. So we are reaching out to ask for your assistance with funding for this project. The estimated cost for replacing the pipes is approximately \$30,000. We have approximately \$24,500 in our FIF account. If you feel you could help fund this project, please call Sherry at the parish office with your pledge amount.

Convent Windows

As you all know, we are renting the convent building to one of our parishioners. The windows that are currently in the building are the single pane glazed windows with single pane storm windows. They are not energy efficient at all and are in desperate need of re-glazing and painting. We have had a donor step forward and offer \$10,000 toward upgrading the windows in the convent building. The Buildings and Grounds committee has gotten a couple of high level estimates of \$25,000 to \$30,000 to replace all the windows. We would prefer to complete the whole project at one time instead of in phases. If your stewardship angel is nudging you to consider helping with the funding for this project, please contact Sherry at the parish office.

These are a couple of big projects. We have submitted the proxy to the Archdiocese for the replacement of the pipes in the fire suppression system so this project can go ahead once we receive approval. We will make the determination to proceed on the convent windows once we see if there is enough interest in funding that project.

Thank you all for your support, both with funding and volunteer hours, for keeping our parish buildings and grounds looking good and well maintained.

Pastor and St. Bernard Finance Council

December 29, 2020

Happy New Year everyone, 2020 was a particular difficult for many of us. It has been a really difficult year for residents of Senior Care facilities.

St. Bernard parishioner Judy Glander works as a care giver at The Haven in NYA. Judy called looking for help caring for her residents. The residents have been secure and alone in their rooms for months. Judy is looking for ideas on how to brighten their lives with activities they can do while away from other residents.

Judy needs help with an idea of having residents play games on I-Pads. The facility has no budget for these and is asking for donors to provide cash, I-Pads new or used. The Haven has 24 units, the goal is to provide 12 devices as a start for this program.

Donations can be left with Judy Glander by calling at 612-245-0573 or Roger Storms at 612-618-8365.