



The Shell

An e-letter for

Saint James the Greater Church, Cincinnati, Ohio

The Shell, is a periodic email newsletter for the parishioners and friends of Saint James Church. This does not replace the Sunday bulletin or Parish Life. It's an opportunity for brief updates and news. A symbol for our patron saint is a shell and that gives the name to our e-letter.

June 5, 2014

Summer projects

After last Sunday's bulletin, I got a lot of questions about what is costing \$140,000 in the school this summer. It's primarily two major projects. The first is \$100,000 for new lockers in all the rooms. The PTO board a couple of years ago decided that new lockers were needed and designated money for that project. The first intent was to put them in last summer but that was impossible as we had all the new windows being installed. This year they get installed.

The other big school project is the redecoration of the cafeteria, which is funded by the Panther Prowl and other gifts. All of this will be ready to welcome the projected 565 students in August.

Other projects that will happen in the summer affect the gym. Now that the roof has been replaced, there will be some tuck pointing on the building. During the winter, one of the two heating units for the gym died. Replacing just one unit doesn't work; we have to replace both at the same time. The unit for the gym lobby is also on life support. This means these three units will have to be replaced over the summer. As we consider our options on this project, we may choose to air condition the gym since the cost difference for the units isn't that great. A bigger factor is the ongoing cost of operating air conditioning in the gym which will not be cheap; this could be a major hit in the cost of operating the gym. To cool the gym in the height of the summer means the system would have to be on much longer than just for a planned event. It would not be practical to turn it on for a practice or game but only for a full day. A lot has to be considered as we move toward a decision.

The Picture Directories are here!

The Christian Service Commission will be distributing the Picture Directories on the weekends of June 7/8 and 14/15 in the church hall. Please stop down after mass to pick up your copy. Anyone who has a picture in the directory receives a complimentary directory. Additional directories can be purchased for \$10. Also, if you have not picked up your complimentary 8x10 photograph they will be available for pick up as well.

A new Blog

Nic Kovatch, our pastoral associate, has created a new blog that is part of our adult faith formation efforts. Check out <http://whystoriesmatter.blogspot.com/>. In this installment there are five short film clips and then reflections printed after each. It's like his "Movies Matter" series but eventually will include stories from more sources than just movies. These are thought provoking and will certainly interest you.

The movement toward online learning is growing. It's even infiltrating the religious education efforts in the Church. The advantages come from the convenience of accessing things at any time. The disadvantage is the lack of community and interaction with presenters. Something like this is a good beginning and I hope you will take the opportunity to watch "whystoriesmatter."

Have a great summer!

Fr. Nolker