

November 30, 2018

Dear friends,

On Wednesday, November 28, a man broke into our church. He arrived at about 4:45 a.m. and left around 5:30 a.m. It took him a long time to pry open the outside doors on the lower level. He spent about another 20 minutes in the upper lobby trying to get into the church itself but was unsuccessful. With a crowbar and other tools, he did severely damage the two main doors by the font and they will probably need to be replaced. The smaller door nearest the music area was also damaged, but it might be possible to repair it. Over all, he spent almost an hour trying to gain access to the building and then the church itself. Two points of good news are that he did not get into the church and everything was recorded on our surveillance cameras.

On Wednesday morning three members of the Green Township police responded and carried out forensics to capture finger prints, etc. Later that day they issued a poster asking for help identifying the man. By Thursday afternoon they had been able to identify the individual and a warrant for his arrest was issued. A copy of the current "wanted poster" with his photo and information is attached.

We are constantly reviewing our security. We could install alarms systems and programable locking systems for our buildings, but they are very expensive. We are also aware that no security program is perfect and none will stop people from damaging property as they try to break in. So, we need everyone's help. Some things are very simple.

- Make sure your car is locked while you are in church.
- Be aware of your surroundings as you enter or leave any of our buildings, even in the daytime.
- If you have an event at the parish and are in charge of locking up, please double check that all doors are secure when you leave.
- Outside lights should be on even if it is still light out when you leave; it will get dark. If they are on, please do not turn them out when you leave. If they aren't on, please turn them on. Having the lights on at the doors helped get clear pictures in this case.

We are confident that the police will apprehend this criminal and he will go to trial. We will let you know about any further developments.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Nolker

