

Dear Parishioners,

Recently, we concluded a year long 50th anniversary celebration of our parish. I wish to thank you for all that you do to make St. James the Apostle Parish the great faith-filled parish that it has become.

With our parish now fifty years old, the aging campus is requiring increased care and expensive capital repairs. Even with decreased income, which many other parishes throughout the diocese are experiencing, the dedicated work by our parish staff has enabled us to balance our budgets. We have also been deferring some major capital projects. Specifically, we need to address the following issues as soon as possible, with completion by the end of 2016.

1. The original boiler (50 years old) and the air conditioning for St. James Hall are failing. You may be aware that our school was shut down several days this past winter due to boiler issues. Trying to repair this antiquated system is costly and inefficient. New units will avoid repairs and save on energy costs. Structural and mechanical engineers are being scheduled to review contractor plans to ensure we are being as efficient as possible for a long term solution.
2. The church roof needs to be replaced. As you know, after we repaired our ceiling panels during our lighting upgrade, roof leaks caused damage to the newly repaired and painted panels. Again, we have tried to keep up with roof patching, but a new roof is truly what is needed.
3. Patching and sealing all of our parking lots must take place. We cannot defer this any longer as we continue to see increasing damage and more potholes requiring our immediate attention.
4. There are several other projects on our list including classroom tiles, church eaves repairs and church door replacement/repairs.

The total cost of the work described above is close to \$250,000. In order to keep our parish fiscally sound, we are asking you to consider participating in our 2016 “50th Anniversary Capital Campaign.” I will be addressing this at all the Masses next weekend. A letter and special envelope will also be sent out to all of our registered parishioners the week of May 23.

St. James the Apostle Parish has been an extraordinarily generous parish in so many ways over the years. I ask that you prayerfully consider what you can give to this capital campaign so that our parish complex will continue to be a beautiful and inviting place for people to worship, grow in their faith, socialize and in general, be the people God has created us to be. Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Fr. David