



September 2001

The BuildingStone ... more "Good News" from Saint James Church to keep parishioners and friends of Saint James informed about the new-church building project.



*"My soul yearns
for the court of the
Lord."*

Psalm 84:1-2



A construction update

The waiting is over: walls going up

After years of planning and development, St. James' new church is finally taking shape. Excess dirt and other material (surcharge) that had been piled on the construction site have been removed, but only after the ground had sunk 18 inches on the south side.

Meanwhile, the block walls are coming up on the north and east sides of the new building. On the north, walls denote where areas such as the new restrooms and a nursery/meeting room will be. In between those walls is an open area that will become an entrance leading into the narthex, or gathering area.

On the east, the opening in the newly-constructed wall will become the main church entrance. Rapid progress is apparent, too, in the increased number of workers at the site. One day, recently, there were 16 workers on site: six from Lund-Ross, the firm in charge of the project, five plumbers working on the rest-room plumbing, and five masons. **Dick Carpenter**, Lund-Ross project manager, said there soon would be 20 to 25 on the site on an average day.

Weather, of course, looms as a big issue over the course of any construction project. Carpenter said his hope is that before winter sets in, the northern portion of the building will be enclosed, walls up, flooring poured, and a roof on so that interior work can go on during our cold and snowy months. On the southern end, some work could be limited by the weather—especially by snow—but structural steel will continue to go up during the winter. 🌻

Looking through the glass—stained glass

Stained glass, a traditional church fixture

Stained glass is traditional in Catholic churches, and the new church at St. James will be no different.

The stained glass "will be one of the more beautiful features of the new church," said Fr. Mike, pastor of St. James.

Stained glass windows currently part of the church plans include:

- *A large, rose-colored window on the south wall behind the altar. This will be the most dramatic piece;

- *A window on each side of the main rose window on the south end;

- *Another, somewhat smaller rose window on the north wall near the baptismal font;

- *Six chapel windows;

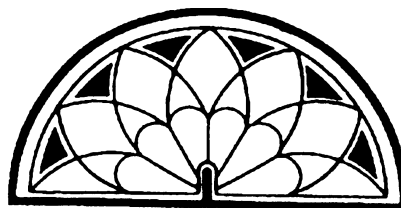
Other windows will be clear initially, but will be changed to stained glass in groups as funds become available. Those windows include:

- *Six dormer windows on the east and west walls;

- *115 clerestory (clear, upper-level) windows, also on the east and west walls.

Because current pledges do not cover the cost of all the windows that the parish hopes will be stained glass, memorial donations are being used to speed the completion of the project.

For more on memorial gifts, see the related article on Page 2. 🌻




The financial picture

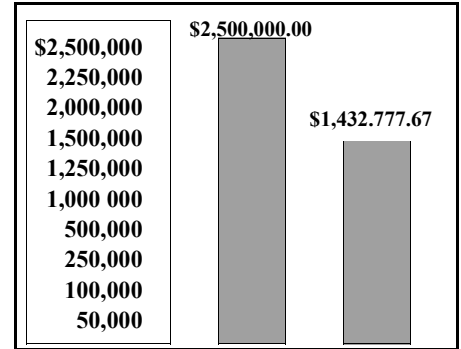
Pledge contributions adding up

As pledge contributions continue to come in, the financial picture for the new church is taking shape and construction work goes on.

Payments made on Capital Campaign pledges totaled \$1,432,777.67 through Sept. 2. Fr. Michael Grewe encourages parishioners to pay pledges as soon as possible to help keep the amount of a loan needed to a minimum.

Security National Bank will provide a line of credit at 6.25 percent interest.

Negotiations continue on the permanent loan for the project. That loan, along with the Capital Campaign funds and a \$500,000 loan from the Archdiocesan Deposit and Loan (at 6 percent interest), are anticipated to fund the project. 



More volunteers sought for the weekends

Parishioners adapt to changes in parking

On the first day of school and P.R.E. classes, orange cones (used to direct traffic flow) ruled in the St. James parking lot.

To minimize confusion, a diagram of the parking lot was mailed to school and P.R.E. parents before the start of classes so they could familiarize themselves with the approved lanes in and out of St. James. With construction almost in full swing, staff and volunteers then came out in force to help parents negotiate the new ins and outs of the parking lot.

With each passing day, traffic flow improves and, although parking sometimes gets a bit hectic, with everyone being flexible, things are coming together quite nicely.

"Our limited parking situation has given everyone an opportunity to practice the virtue of patience!" said Fr. Mike.

Meanwhile, at weekend Masses, teams of volunteers are stationed in the handicapped parking

"Our limited parking situation has given everyone an opportunity to practice the virtue of patience!"


-Fr. Mike, Pastor

area to help people park and to give them a ride to the church doors in a golf cart, if needed.

The golf cart was recently donated to the school by **Andy Petersen, Steve Stangl and West Interactive Corporation** (it's also used when orange cones are placed around the parking lot and then picked up twice a day for school traffic).

We're seeking more volunteers to shuttle parishioners to church in the golf cart, and we'd like to get enough people so no one has to work every Sunday.

Parishioners available to help at one of the Masses are asked to call the rectory, 572-0499 (M-F, 8:30-4:00 p.m.).

Also, during the two busiest weekend Masses, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m., we've arranged it so parishioners can park on Larimore Avenue and go through the school's north doors which have been unlocked. Parishioners then walk down the stairs to gain access to the church. 

Loved ones remembered in special ways

Memorial gift booklet available at rectory

St. James parish is offering a Memorial Gifts Program for contributors who want to remember and honor loved ones.

A booklet that can be obtained at the St. James rectory lists items needed in the new church and a donation amount required to have that item become a memorial gift in the name of a loved one. All gifts will be memorialized in a special, permanent way in the church's narthex.

Donation amounts included in the program range from \$150 for a chapel chair with kneeler to \$45,000 for the bells and \$115,000 for the bell tower. A number of items are available, and they come in many categories:

- +Main sanctuary (e.g., presider's chair, \$4,000);
- +Windows (e.g., \$4,000 for a stained-glass window [two are currently left] in the chapel; tabernacle, \$12,000);

- +Statues (e.g., St. Joseph statue, price to be determined);
- +Chapel (e.g., tabernacle, \$12,000).
- +Nave (e.g., pews, \$1,350 each);
- +Sound/electronic/musical (e.g., \$150 for a chair in the choir area);
- +Reconciliation room (furnishings, \$4,000);
- +Landscaping (landscaping, sod, seed, \$30,000; trees and shrubs, prices to be determined).

Anyone interested in the program should contact the rectory. The booklet listing the items is updated regularly to reflect the items that already have been reserved.

Donations for the memorial items are *above and beyond* parishioners' current pledges. Those original pledges, unless earmarked otherwise at the time, are designated for the general construction of the church. 