



St. Barbara Catholic Church

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This document is included as an addendum to our Parish Report for July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. Your increased generosity has enabled us to address various maintenance issues which have been deferred because of the lack of funds. This list is not inclusive of all the maintenance projects undertaken by the parish and school, but is intended to give you an idea of the costs involved to properly maintain our parish facilities. Mrs. Hurckes's Principal Report details additional maintenance projects which were undertaken by the school. I would like to point out that our elementary school has been basically responsible for its own finances. Maintenance project costs which involve both the Parish and the School are split. On the third Sunday of each month, the second collection is for St. Barbara Elementary School. Whatever you give to this collection goes directly to the school. Over twelve months, this amounts to approximately \$12,000. Our Elementary School receives no other subsidy from the parish, unlike many other parishes. So I thank you for your generosity with this second collection.

Boiler Maintenance/Repairs: The two Kewanee boilers provide heat for both school buildings, the gym, and the church. These boilers were built and installed in 1956. In addition, the steam piping goes back to the 1910's and 1920's. These boilers are over 50 years old and require continual maintenance. We are very fortunate to have a couple of parishioners who maintain the boilers, but we also must occasionally call in Hayes Boiler to service our bigger projects. The Archdiocese gave us a quote of \$180,000 to replace the boilers, which did not include the removal of the old boilers. We were told that our boilers have been maintained well, so we hope to continue to keep our Kewanee boilers running for a number of years.

Boiler Chemicals: All steam boilers have tubes to exchange the heat to the steam pipes. Each boiler has 84 pipes. Over time, these pipes corrode and spring leaks and must be replaced. This is a very costly project, so it was recommended that we add various chemicals to our boiler water to slow down the oxidation/corrosion process. This will hopefully save the parish from untimely and costly future boiler repairs.

Convent New Electrical Service: We hope to lease both the front and back sections of the old convent. To allow for the possibility of two separate tenants, the electrical service had to be split between the two buildings.

Convent Repairs: To prepare the convent for leasing, a number of repairs were made. New siding covered the breezeway. The back gutter was replaced. An exit door was added to the second floor to comply with fire code regulations.

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Rectory Repairs: This winter, the rectory suffered water damage as the snow melted because of a very old leaking roof. A new roof was put on, after several layers of old roofing shingles were removed. The front foyer of the rectory would flood when it rained, so the foyer roof was rebuilt. We also had a variety of plumbing issues which needed attention.

Church Windows Restoration: Not that long ago, the stained glass windows were restored. Visitors to St. Barbara Parish are impressed and comment on the beauty of our stained glass windows. This summer we restored 20 translucent glass windows. A number of window frames had to be rebuilt and cracked glass replaced. These windows were then protected with Lexan. We still need to restore the highest seven round windows in the front of church and in the bell tower.

Outdoor Church Lights: The driveway between the back of Church and School was very dark at night, so three high intensity commercial grade lights were installed to light your way. A parishioner made a donation in memoriam, which offset some of the cost.

New Gym/Auditorium Windows: The old hopper windows in the gym had very badly deteriorated. Over the summer, the school replaced both the north and south windows. The total cost of \$30,000 will be split between two school fiscal years.

Maintenance Project	Church	School
Boiler Maintenance/Repairs	\$4,423	\$30,136
Boiler Maintenance/Repairs-split	\$9,693	\$9,693
Boiler Chemicals-split	\$2,485	\$2,485
Convent New Electrical Service	\$3,339	
Convent Repairs	\$10,600	
Rectory Repairs	\$7,300	
Church Windows Renovation	\$21,150	
Outdoor Church Lights-split	\$600	\$600
New Gym/Auditorium Windows		\$14,000
Total	\$59,590	\$56,914

Hopefully this information helps to show you that we are practicing good stewardship. I am very grateful to the Maintenance Committee for all their work and advice. St. Barbara has a wonderful building complex. As I tell visitors who marvel at the beauty of our church, *They don't build churches this way anymore.*

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Dennis Ziomek
Administrator