

S A I N T

MARY

Messenger

MARCH 20, 2011

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 2

## NEW SCHOOL SNEAK PEEK

This special bulletin insert gives you a brief look inside our new school, which will open this fall – a place for children AND adults to grow in faith. Thank you to everyone who is contributing – financially, with prayers and with your support – and thank you to the construction team building it. God bless you all!

### INSIDE THE COMMONS



This is the view standing in the commons, looking south, towards the church. At left is the library/FEMA safe room entryway (A). At either side of the south wall are the main entrances, (B). In the center is the atrium (C), a hands-on area for children to learn about our faith, using Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. This area where children focus on faith is intentionally located front and center of the building, as faith is foremost and central to the school's mission.

### INSIDE THE ATRIUM



## Progress report

by Josh Kippenberger

Exciting news! Overall, we are **on schedule** to start school in the new building this fall, although the *exact* timing is not certain.

Contractually, **the contractor has until September** to finish the project and turn it over to the parish. The reason the contract gives the company until September is because we redesigned several building systems during the design phase, which pushed back the actual construction start date but also saved the parish a tremendous amount of money.

Some of the progress on the new school is easy to see from the outside, such as the (cont. on back)

Progress Report, cont. from pg. 1

gym being built, but most of it has now moved inside. The **block work is finished on the north, east and west wings, the commons area, library and kitchen.**

There is a flurry of activity in the east and west classroom wings. Roofs are installed, duct work is being hung, fire sprinkler piping and insulation installed, drywall is complete, painting is wrapping up and ceiling grid will be hung soon. Framing is starting on the north wing.

**So, "What's next?"** Among the many things up next the roof system for the building will be installed. The north wing structure will be framed up and the interior finish out will begin.

Again, **it currently looks good for construction to wrap up this summer if the weather stays nice.** All of the contractors are well aware of how important it is to the parish to move into the new school before the academic year starts. However, we can't commit to an early project turnover until we get just a little further down the road. **The contractor HAS already agreed to take three weeks off the schedule and we will assess the schedule again in early May** to set a firm turnover date.

One final note, there have been a few parishioners who, for various reasons, have had an opportunity to walk through the project and I know there are many others who would like that opportunity as well. **Once construction progress is at a little safer stage for large groups, we will schedule a block of time for a tour by the parish as a whole.**

**Please continue to keep the project in your prayers.**



Classrooms on the east wing (two each of preschool, kindergarten, first and second plus alphabetic phonics), have been painted and will have ceilings hung soon. Classrooms on the west wing (two each of grades 6-8, plus a science room and art room) are ready to be painted. Classrooms on the north wing (two each of grades 3-5) are being framed.

**Other miscellaneous notes:**

- Electrical power is functioning
- Kitchen exhaust hoods are installed
- Sheetrock is being installed in the administrative offices this week
- The last of the block work on the gym was completed on Friday.
- The music room and the library are FEMA safe rooms in case of tornado.
- For questions about the building, contact Bob Stuhlsatz at 788-4234 or at bobstuhlsatz@gmail.com.



Construction superintendent Don Cote shows the light colored brick to go around the windows, and the dark brick that will be used on the rest of the front exterior.



Gym walls and the roof are up; the floor will be wood. Locker rooms and a coach's office are being completed.

If you'd like to make a gift to the building fund, there are many options! Contact Andrea, aeastman@stmarysderby.com or 788-5525!

**To view construction photos online:**

- Since March 8, 2011: [simpsonconst.com/project-blogs/st-mary-catholic-school-a-education-center](http://simpsonconst.com/project-blogs/st-mary-catholic-school-a-education-center)
- Photos from August 2010 through March 4, 2011: [stmaryderbyrosehill.blogspot.com](http://stmaryderbyrosehill.blogspot.com)