

Asphalt Update

The work on our driveways and parking lots began on Tuesday September 24th. The old asphalt was removed and in the designated areas soil was removed, a GEO fabric barrier put in place, and an 8" sub-base of gravel was added. The weather was great. During the excavation work 2 power lines were severed to the parking lot lights. This is why we built in a \$15,000 contingency fund into our contract in order to address any unforeseen problems.

On Thursday September 27th when McKearney Asphalt was ready to begin laying the asphalt the asphalt plant in Jackson, that was supplying the asphalt, broke down. The work came to a standstill. Heavy rain was being predicted for Friday afternoon. On Friday September 28th, the asphalt plant in Jackson was still shut down, so McKearney started shipping in asphalt from Lansing. It came slowly because of the limited amount of trucks that were available. About 2:30 p.m. the heavy rain began and the project was not yet 50% completed. McKearney was aware that we needed access to the drives and parking areas for the weekend, so the owner made the decision to lay the asphalt on a wet sub-base, knowing that it would need to be removed and redone.

On Tuesday October 1st, the owner of McKearney Asphalt met with Alan Olson from the Diocese to assess the state of the asphalt and to make a plan to move forward. They determined that 80% of the newly laid asphalt needed to be removed and the sub-base prepared for new asphalt. This would be of no cost to the parish. Beginning on Monday October 7th the asphalt will be removed and prepped once again for the new. The first layer of asphalt should be laid by the end of the week. The final layer will be added the following week. There needs to be some time allowed between asphalt layers. If the weather cooperates, and there are no other surprises, the project should be completed by Friday October 18th.

The electrical damage is in the process of being repaired. The sod will also need to be cut away so that it is at a level that will allow water to properly drain off the asphalt and into the drainage areas.

Please be attentive and careful when you are walking in the parking lots and drives. The asphalt is uneven and in some places there are 2 different levels of asphalt. These irregularities will disappear with the conclusion of the project.

During the weekdays the parish facilities will be accessible via Kryst Street. For those attending weekday Mass I ask that you enter the property from Kryst Street and park on the lawn by the SW emergency exit to the church. You will see other vehicles parked there. Please be careful. Access to the parish office will be through the parish hall entrance. Please park on the lawn off the Kryst Street entrance, you will see at least one vehicle parked there. You will be walking through the gravel area behind the dumpster. Please be careful.

I will keep you updated as the project continues to progress.

Fr. Tim