

Pastor's Notes: Home Repair Service Projects

June 20, 2021

There are a couple of needy families in our parish in dire need of home repairs and without the means to accomplish them on their own. This weekend, Jim West (jbwest7@gmail.com / 423-708-5578) is bringing together volunteer laborers from our Spanish and English speaking communities for a work day on June 19 to help the King family with repairs to their deck, roof, and plumbing, and yardwork, with the assistance of a Catholic Extension grant. We will share the progress of that project in the near future.

These past few weeks, parishioners have also been helping the Bieszad family with urgent repairs and a necessary addition to their family home, and many came together on June 5 for a successful work day there. Basilica parishioner Grant Barker has organized the work force for this project with volunteers from several parishes. Below is a project summary with photos from the June 5 work day at the Bieszads. These are just two examples of recent neighborly initiatives within our parish especially since the tornadoes of spring 2020. I am grateful for the organizers and all who are donating labor, money, insurance, materials, and refreshments to help each other. I pray God will bless these corporal works of mercy and that charity within our community will multiply during this Year of St. Joseph! More help is needed, and you can find out about these projects on our website.

Report on June 5 Work Day at the Bieszads' Home, by Grant Barker

I wanted to take the time to thank the Volunteers from three different churches for y'all's invaluable help on the Saturday, June 5th work day. Unbelievably, we had over 20 people show up and work tirelessly together and had fun on the site.

On Saturday we accomplished everything on our list and more. Clean-up was assisted by the use of a dumpster bin that was brought by a parishioner. The yard was cleaned up and the garden was tilled. The inside was equally fruitful with electrical connected walls finished up and are now painted as well as an immense amount of cleaning. These efforts greatly enhance our mission and to meet our timelines.

Our next phase of projects include renovating and re-supporting the kitchen and the structural wall, Mason work outside of the house, Septic work, and general renovations and cleaning. These efforts will be labor-intensive and will include the help of contractors to finish them.



A Go Fund Me has been set up available here to assist with costs for the project. In addition we may also donate to the Basilica [for the Bieszad family's needs] by contacting the parish office.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-for-family-torn-apart-by-cps-over-messy-house>

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. And thanks for your support.

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W.O.R.C. (Work Outreach to Build Community)*

Find out more about the Bieszad and King families' needs on our website under Ways to Give & Receive Help. Please pray for the parishioners featured on our Pray for Us page, and consider ways you may be able to help.

Rev. J. David Carter