

## THANK YOU!



The Spring Volunteer Clean-Up Day was a great success despite cool temperatures and occasional drizzle. An enthusiastic team of Parish volunteers tackled some long overdue projects and made a great difference in many of the outdoor areas of the Parish grounds:

- Some much needed repairs were made to the red storage shed behind the CSC by an experienced duo of handyman volunteers. The shed is now sturdy, safe, and fully functional!
- The statue of Mary located in the landscaping in front of the CSC (that you may have never noticed) was given a good cleaning. Since she looks so good now, she may be moved to a more prominent location.
- The area around the outdoor altar behind the CSC was cleaned and the stone surrounding the base of the altar was freshened and replaced. The setting is now more conducive to an outdoor Mass or ceremony.
- The area behind the CSC next to the storage shed had become very overgrown with vines and vegetation and had accumulated a lot of junk. When the vegetation was cut down a great deal of additional trash and useless items were uncovered. A significant amount of waste was separated out and later disposed of. The area was further raked and cleaned out. The Parish should now get creative and identify something more beneficial or beautiful to do with this area. It was hard work but a great job volunteers!
- The exit area from the back of the gymnasium and from the classroom behind the Library of the CSC was power washed and the vegetation trimmed to allow better access. The doors remain to be repainted, but this area is now much safer and pleasing to the eye.
- The exterior walls of the CSC next to Pettee Brook were power washed to remove the buildup of mildew and moss that had spread to many areas. The dead branches and thorns were removed from the bordering vegetation along the Brook to allow easier maintenance and pedestrian passage.
- A lot of vegetation trimming was performed around the rear of the Rectory and along Pettee Brook in the lawn behind the CSC and Rectory. In addition, the lower portions of the special memorial trees were trimmed and shaped. This TLC had not been done for some time and required a knowledgeable eye and strong arms.
- The treed areas behind the Church that that been invaded by vines and other young opportunistic trees were trimmed and cleared.
- Some invasive vines were pulled off of the exterior walls of the CSC. Many more must be removed.



A lot was accomplished, and the volunteers were focused and dedicated. Despite the weather, the volunteers had a good time and said they felt good about helping the Parish. They made a big difference. We also made a good dent in the "Big List", the list of maintenance projects we need to address in relation to the Parish buildings and grounds. More Volunteer Days will be held in the weeks and months to come to address more exterior and interior projects. Please participate if you can – EVERYONE can help in some way. Come with friends and family. Many hands make for lighter work.

A special thanks to Ann McGurty who organized and served a great light lunch to refuel the volunteers! It was much appreciated!

