



Catholic Mutual Group

servicing the temporal needs of the church since 1889

Monday, December 19, 2022

****Cold Weather Alert Beginning Monday, December 19 – Monday, December 26** TURN UP THE HEAT!**

Winter has definitely arrived in Southeastern Wisconsin! We are going to experience severe cold temperatures and dangerously low wind chills. When the severe cold strikes, our parishes and schools can suffer serious property damage caused by heat system failure and frozen piping. Avoid these expensive property losses by turning up the heat and inspecting all of your buildings at least twice a day. Walk all portions of the buildings and if an area feels cold, check the heat supply to that area. **If you discover frozen pipes, cold radiators, or furnaces/boilers that are not working properly, contact repair immediately. Frozen pipes need to be carefully thawed out ASAP to avoid bursting.**

Help prevent freeze-ups by:

1. Check the heat and plumbing twice a day in unoccupied buildings with water/plumbing. Heat should be set to at least sixty degrees during these extremely cold temperatures.
2. Open closet and cabinet doors on outside walls. Cabinets, closets or other enclosures can restrict the transfer of heat to pipes and plumbing, especially on outside walls and in entranceways.
3. Open faucets (dripping) or plumbing fixtures that are located on outside walls, or if the water supply pipes run through or next to an outside wall.
4. Temporarily use indoor space heaters and other non-fuel supplied heaters to maintain building heat during a boiler or furnace repair to mitigate the extent of damage to your pipes and plumbing. Be sure to remove all combustibles and storage from within 3 feet of space heaters.
5. Have a plan in place in the event of a boiler or furnace malfunction. Make arrangements with your HVAC service provider to provide 24 hour response to your location.
6. Check for drafts and other areas of heat loss. Check all exterior windows and doors to make sure they are shut tight and locked. Even a small air leak can cause interior freezing. If necessary, apply removable window caulk or expansion foam to temporarily seal window and door drafts.
7. In closets and other confined spaces, keep light bulbs turned on near pipes and plumbing fixtures. The small amount of heat emitted from incandescent or compact fluorescent bulbs can keep these pipes and fixtures from freezing.
8. If your location experiences a frozen pipe burst or other water loss – **turn off the main water supply and immediately contact your plumber or mechanical contractor**, then contact Catholic Mutual Group. For an emergency response to a consequential water loss or other property claim, please contact Catholic Mutual Group at 262-255-6906 and Belfor Property Restoration at 414-476-3720.

Thank you for your cooperation.

P. O. Box 178
Menomonee Falls, WI 53052-0178
(262) 255-6906
Facsimile (262) 255-7276
Cell 414-405-2603