

May 7/8 2011 FC

Thank you Father!

> I'm GR, Chair of the FC.; and along with J.T.F. and D.B. serve as your representatives in council to Father Ed on Financial Matters. MA and MG also attend FC meetings.

> The FC has had two meetings; 03/22 and 04/27.

> So what have we been working on?

<The Diocese requires the establishment of Norms (FC duties/responsibilities). Father has approved the Norms and can be found on St. Martin's web site.

<You recall Father's SOP report where parishioners were alerted to a short fall in funding levels; a lot of this being driven by the addition of the Rectory and other pressing needs (church roof and AC). And because of these needs, longer term plans and commitments were being put of hold.

<Further, Father asked the FC to review the remainder of the fiscal year (07/2010-06/2011) for ways to reduce expenses and increase collections.

<What were the findings:

\*Sunday/Holyday collections are running on average \$8k/wk; which along with tuition and fees is covering RE and operational expenses. However, at the end of March as well as the June outlook, the operations reserve account (cash) will cover less than month of expenses. A minimum of three (3) months is a prudent target.

\*Additionally, with the new borrowing on the Rectory (\$308,000), for a total of \$730,000, total P&I monthly payments will be \$9,500. Monthly Bldg/Debt Reduction collections have averaged less than \$2k/month. Cash Reserves are less than 3 months.

<Recommendations:

\*As provided in the Norms, all expenditures other than normal operations is to be presented to the FC prior to any commitment.

\*All normal operation expenditures will be approved by the Bus. Mgr. (M.A.)

\*A formal budget process will be initiated for the next fiscal year.

\*The parish consists of just less than 700 families. Collection envelopes are mailed to about 500 families. About 250 are returned. These 250 contribute over 75% of the weekly collections. Likewise, for the monthly Debt Reduction collection only about 10 envelopes are returned. The math for increased collections is very powerful. For only \$20/week and 250 additional envelopes weekly collections would increase by \$5k/wk, and for Debt Reduction, \$20/month results in as much as \$10k/month. Consistency of giving is very important; one option available to those with a computer is On Line Bill Pay through your bank.

\*Include "Pledge Cards" for giving during the Budget process. To assure responsible and consistent support of St. Martin and its Ministries, Father and his staff will need to know what resources will be available.

\*Fund raisers and Special Requests "wish lists" will be important! The PC has formed a Committee to identify a few larger opportunities. More to come!

>In asking for your support, we know there has to be more accountability; so there will be more financial information shared. Further, as your representatives, the FC are providing contact information along with the financial information. Finally, I know I speak for the FC as well as the office staff, in welcoming your questions and comments.