

## NOTES from Parish Council Meeting January 17, 2018.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### **Capital Campaign Update:**

- Pledges to date are 478 for a total of \$1,115,091.18 (including the pennies deposited so far of \$11,944.18).
- We have also received Campaign Memorials totaling \$4,185 and donations totaling \$4,080.
- Total pledges paid to date are \$900,788.77 (81.6% of total pledge amount). The pledge balance due is \$202,358.23.
- 12 parishioners have not yet made a payment against their outstanding pledge representing a total of \$10,478.
- There are 213 parishioners who have paid off their pledge with the total amounting to \$444,862. All pledgers will receive a 2017 year-end statement this month to remind them of their remaining balance. Thank you letters will accompany those who have paid off their pledges this year, along with a reminder about the items available by giving level for the Tree of Life.
- The current campaign (Phase II) will end on June 30th of this year. Buddy Miller of Stewardship Consulting Services will be meeting soon with Father and Gayle Fontaine to discuss Phase III of the Campaign, encompassing the Porte Cochere, outside access to Quinn Hall from the parking lot, and parking lot renovation.

#### **Building Expansion Update:**

- The tile floor in Quinn Hall will be replaced, due to an installation issue affecting the durability. Final bills to Entech Engineering and Associated Construction are pending completion of this replacement, slated for sometime in January/February. Engineering plans for Phase III are complete.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### **Parish Giving Online Collections Program:**

- We have decided to work exclusively with Parish Giving, a division of John Patrick Publishing Company, starting February 2018 to begin a program of online Sunday Collections and all future collections for the Parish including Diocesan collections, debt reduction, donations, parish event payments, and more.
- January 16<sup>th</sup> was the final direct debit of Sunday collections for all parishioners participating in the program. They will still be able to use EFT draft to make donations to the parish via Parish Giving if they wish, but will also now be able to use a debit card or credit card, set up the date and frequency of donations, and basically manage their online accounts.

**Election of Officers:** Lori Psota was re-elected as Chair, Dave Connor was re-elected as Vice-Chair, and Eugene Kovach was re-elected as Secretary.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Building & Grounds:** See updates above. Next meeting will be scheduled for the beginning of the year.

#### **Parish Life:**

- Notes of Thanks – About 200 out of 300 were distributed in the Narthex between Thanksgiving and New Year's.
- Family Advent Celebration – A nice, but small event. About 15 kids signed up, and 10 attended. Weather was not pleasant the night of the event. Youth Group supported by playing major roles in Nativity Play.
- Fish Fry will be held February 23 – Fish, Mac & Cheese, and Salad.
- Simple Suppers – Parish Life will coordinate involving various groups within the Parish.
- Easter Egggggggspressions - Will skip doing it this year, and do again next year.
- Easter Egg Hunt will be held March 31st (choosing a time that does not conflict with Blessing of the Easter Food baskets). Will see how/if Youth Group and Knights would like to be involved in the Egg Hunt and Craft activity.
- Other Activities – Graduation Luncheon – Parish Life will host again this year; need to pick a date as it approaches.
- Parish Picnic – Knights have proposed we partner on picnic – need to pick a date.

#### **Finance:**

- No Report. We will meet on February 22nd.

#### **Fundraising:**

- Craft and Food Fest was held on December 2nd and 3rd. The event was another success, generating revenue of \$4,803.65 and a net profit of \$4,014.36. Our thanks go to Leona Gabel, Gail Ondo, Carol Palladino, and their team of volunteers as well as the Knights of Columbus for assisting with set-up and clean-up.
- 3rd Annual Chili Cook-off is being held this Saturday from 6 to 8 PM. There are 20 contestants and over 80 admission pre-sale tickets have sold. The event will be DJ'd by Scott Entertainment. Parishioner businesses will be providing samples ranging from beer and wine to food and desserts. A Kids Activity Zone will include crafts and a coloring contest.
- The Daily Lottery is currently on sale, slightly behind last year's numbers, but anticipate sales to increase.

- The Irish Knight at the Races, scheduled on Saturday, March 17th, is currently in the planning stages. An ad is scheduled for this weekend's bulletin and announced at the Chili Cook-off. Tickets will be going on sale Monday, February 5th.

#### **Knights of Columbus:**

- **Church:** 5th Sunday Rosary – scheduled for January 28th; Adoration Slot for Friday 1:00 to 2:00 AM is now filled by our Knights of Columbus Officers
- **Community:** Our PennDOT Road Cleanup sign is up on Route 73; KofC "Measure Up" Campaign for "The ARC": Helping People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities; Handi-Crafters in Thorndale: Help out at 9:00 AM, Friday Feb. 23.
- **Council:** "Knights in the Morning" - Next one is scheduled for Saturday morning, Feb. 3; The Pre-Super Bowl Party (scheduled for Saturday Feb. 3) has been canceled; Monthly Breakfasts: January we served 234 breakfasts, grossing roughly \$1700 less cost. Next Sunday Breakfast, Feb. 4 (Super Bowl Sunday).
- **Culture of Life:** March for Life – Friday January 19 (we gave \$500 to sponsor the Bus)
- **Family:** St. Valentine's Day Dance – Saturday Feb. 17th after 5PM Mass; Prime Rib & Crab Cake Dinner – Saturday April 21 after 5 PM Mass; Beef/Pork & Beer and Oldies Dance?; Families of the Month – to be awarded in Feb.
- **Family:** Knights Corner article now in the weekly church bulletin; Officer's pictures will be on website shortly.
- **Youth:** Sr. High School Scholarship (formerly Holy Name Society) – to be funded by the Rib & Crab Cake Dinner on April 21st.

#### **Human Concerns/Health Ministry/St. Vincent DePaul:**

- No funeral luncheons. A check for \$1220 was given to John Paul II Center from the sale of Love Lights;
- A speaker from Lifeline in Berks County will be speaking at Masses this weekend;
- March for Life – about 46 people are signed up, only 5 seats remain;
- Jan. 27/28 and Feb. 3/4 - food collections for "Soup"er Bowl; Volunteering at the Soup Kitchen at Kennedy House was on Dec. 16/17 – about 150 meals were served each day; Bowl-A-

#### **Youth Group:**

- The following activities were held in December: Poinsettia Sale – sold out of flowers, and made a profit of \$330. The Christmas Party – Teens had fun with the potluck luncheon, games and having a festive time. The amount of baby items our teens and families donated to Birthright was overwhelming (the Youth Group does this every Christmas). Christmas cards for Meals on Wheels were made. The Teen Council met to come up with ideas for the winter calendar.
- The January meeting included icebreakers and discussions about celebrating God in our lives. Heather would like to try to incorporate more discussions into the Youth Group and the teens seem more receptive to this idea.
- Activities coming up: Dental Hygiene drive for Boyertown Multi-service – drop off items in the boxes in the Narthex until the end of January. Ice Skating at Center Ice in Oaks on January 28th from 2-4 PM. Hoagie Sale February 4th for your Super Bowl parties. Wall O' Money fundraiser – pick a numbered envelope and donate that amount of money from \$1 to \$100. There is also an opportunity for you to send back a prayer that we will continue to pray for on the Mission Trip. Valentine's Day bake sale will be held the weekend of February 10th and 11th. Planning continues for the Holy Week Mission on March 28th to March 31st. Sign-ups are still open for our Mission Trip and Steubenville. There are 9 spots left open for the Mission trip, plus one male chaperone opening.
- Heather also noted that she has had amazing support from parishioners Megan Repko, Nadine Blair, and Christie Edling at the monthly meetings, and Sarah and Brandon Sullivan have also been able to help. As the group continues to grow, we need to encourage our parishioners to give time to our teens.

#### **Parish/Staff Items:**

- Weekly attendance numbers are down. In turn, weekly collections are down.

Our next Council meeting will be held on February, 21 2018, following 7:00 p.m. Mass.