

NOTES from Parish Council Meeting September 19, 2018

OLD BUSINESS

Capital Campaign Update:

- Our Facilities Faith Lift I ended on June 30. Currently we have outstanding pledge payments remaining in the amount of \$83,104.90 of our total revised pledged amount of \$1,115,972.08. \$10,743 which represented 11 pledgers was written off last month as non-collectible (either they are deceased, have moved, or expressed that they cannot fulfill their pledge). In October we will be sending reminder statements and a gentle letter from Father to those who still have a balance remaining.
- Our Facilities Faith Lift II began on July 1. Our pledge goal was initially \$950,000. To date we have received \$642,994.55 in pledges from 248 parish families. Of this amount, total pledges paid to date are \$106,029. The pledge balance due is \$536,964.89. We have not received any new pledges in the last month.
- Our **Pennies to Bricks** Children and Youth Group campaign will kicked off on September 9 during the 11 a.m. Children's Mass. An exchange of pennies for Bricks (Legos) will began, and those bricks will start to form a foundation to represent the efforts of their stewardship to the parish during our FFL II 3 year campaign.

Building Expansion Update:

- If we want the project to move forward next summer, we will have to get approval from the Diocese by the end of the year for bid. We will start working on this in the next few months.

Parish Giving – Online Collections Program:

- We have a total of 134 parish families who have signed up for Sunday Collections to date. The frequency of gifts varies from weekly, biweekly, monthly to quarterly. On average, our projected monthly Sunday Collections online is currently \$17,238.17, or \$3,978.04 per week. Of our original 110 Direct Debit givers in January, 93 have converted over to Parish Giving Online for total dollars of \$11,863.66. 17 have not converted for total dollars if \$1,184. 41 parish families who were not previously on Direct Debit with Sunday Collections have enrolled in Parish Giving Online. Many parish families continue to give regularly online to other types of collections such as St. Vincent de Paul, Fuel, Debt Reduction, Shawl Ministry and Youth Group donations.

Collection Baskets: The current 4 collection baskets were purchased 9 years ago. These are getting rather tattered and in need of replacement. After a discussion, the general consensus of Parish Council is that we would like to purchase new baskets that will be passed from person to person in the pews.

NEW BUSINESS

New Council Member Elections: We are trying to get a jump start on Elections for next year. Lori Psota and Jim Cunningham have another term and both have advised of their willingness to continue. This will leave Dave Connor's vacancy that will need to be filled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building & Grounds:

- Rectory roof is leaking at the vents. This will probably have to be the first roof that will be replaced. Downstairs windows have been replaced. The air handler has been removed and the hallway has been redone. The downstairs bathrooms will be redone by the end of the year. We will also work on the air conditioning for the parish office next year. Individual units in the Narthex, etc. have been working out quite well.

Parish Life:

- Picnic went well. The band and the food was also very good.
- Clergy Appreciation Weekend will be October 13/14.
- Judy Fontana is no longer handling events in Quinn Hall. Patty Petrauskas has taken over coordinating the use of the kitchen. She has compiled a list and will be asking everyone to use it when utilizing the kitchen. She has also suggested purchasing pitchers for making drinks rather than using gallon containers and then having a lot left over.
- Someone mentioned that they recently rode the Colebrookdale Train and suggested that this might be a fun parish function to consider for the future.

Finance:

- No report. We will be meeting in January for the 1/2 year review of actual vs. budget. Last weekend there was an insert in the bulletin with our Financial Report and Father also spoke at all the masses.

Fundraising:

Upcoming events:

- Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Event is being held Tuesday, October 16. The passes entitle you to up to 25% nearly all items are on sale in the Parish Office and will also be on sale in the Narthex the two weekends prior to the event.
- Basket Party is being held on Fri., Oct. 26 starting at 7 PM. The theme is "It's About Time". The Early Bird basket donation deadline is Oct. 14 to be entered into a drawing for a prize valued at \$150. There are several drawings including a hot air balloon ride for two. Tickets will go on sale Sept. 29 and you must be 18 years or older to attend.
- Food & Craft Fest will be held the weekend of Dec. 1/2. We are on track to have a pretty good vendor turn-out.
- Daily Lottery Tickets will be going on sale after the Basket Party. The month-long drawing will take place in February.
- Pellman Cakes fundraiser will be held the two weekends prior to Palm Sunday, with pick-up scheduled for Sat., April 13.
- Kentucky Nite at the Races will be held on Sat., May 4 with a simulcast of The Kentucky Derby to be held during dinner.
- Attic Treasures is being scheduled for the weekend of May 16, 2019.
- Our 3rd Annual Golf Outing will be held in June, 2019. Details are still being worked out.

Knights of Columbus:

Upcoming Events:

- Trivia Knight on Saturday, September 22 after the 5 PM Mass in Quinn Hall. This is expected to be a fun event with beverages provided and prizes. \$20 gets you entrance into the event as well as a \$5 food voucher. Tickets are still available in the Parish Office as well as at the door.
- Camilla Hall Service Project – Some of our Knights will be joining another Council to paint rooms for the retired Sisters.
- Sunday, September 29 is our 5th Sunday Rosary Program.
- Saturday, October 6 is our Knights in the Morning. This is a relaxing, informal get-together of the Knights where interested men of the Parish can come and find out more about the Knights and pray. Coffee and donuts are provided.
- Sunday, October 7 will be our first Knights Sunday Breakfast for the season.
- PennDot Highway Clean-up to be held on October 13 along the 2-mile stretch of Route 73 just east of Oley.
- 2018 Mens' Diocesan Conference is being held on November 3 at DeSales University in Center Valley. This all-day event is open to all Catholic men. The Knights are hoping to send a strong representation to this event to solidify our support.
- Baby Bottle Fundraiser to be held in the coming months to support several Rite to Life causes.

Human Concerns/Health Ministry/St. Vincent DePaul: (There was no report from St. Vincent DePaul.)

- There were 3 bereavement luncheons. One on June 23/24, one on July 20 for 125 people and one on August 23 for 100 people. Judy Fontana is stepping down as the chairperson for this committee.
- Had a "Diaper Bag" collection with all donations going to BirthRite in Pottstown.
- Respect Life will be held the weekend of October 6/7. This is being handled by the Knights of Columbus.
- Annual Coat Drive will be held October 20/21.

Evangelization: No report.

Youth Group:

- We held our Welcome Picnic in August - approximately 30 students attended – many were new to Youth Group.
- We had to cancel our trip to Abbeyfest due to low numbers.
- Updated Teen Council list is Anne Marie Frattone, Hope Fryer, Mary McClelland, Gia Paone and Nick Repko. They are helping to plan icebreakers for our next meeting in October.
- Mission Trip Update: We currently have 14 students already signed up and 5 chaperones. We are in need of another male chaperone to accompany us. The Mission trip location is Virginia Beach, VA from June 16-June 22, 2019.
- Our Dorney Park trip is scheduled for Sept. 29 with 35 teens and family members attending. Rain date is Sat., October 6.
- Our monthly praise and worship Adoration hour will be on Friday, October 5 with small groups afterwards with snacks.
- We have Bake Night at SFA on Friday, October 12.
- The Corn Maze at Wilcox Farm will be on Friday, October 19.
- There will be a Halloween Bake Sale the weekend of October 27-28. All proceeds will go to our Mission Trip.
- A new idea is a girls' retreat, possibly the beginning of March. St. Mary's Providence was suggested as a possible site. The Knights of Columbus want to connect with our Youth Group more and are interested in aiding where possible. Heather Shainline and Megan Repko will be attending a Lifeteen Genesis Conference Sept. 21-23 in Texas.

Parish/Staff Items:

- Since the Grand Jury Report was released, the Diocese has come up with a few initiatives. Adoration was held this past Saturday on the Feast of Our Mother of Sorrows. We will also be reciting the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel at the end of each Mass. This Prayer will be put into all hymnals.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room.