

Pastoral & Finance Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 7 PM

Monsignor Aucoin opened the meeting with a prayer. Present were Jeff Hughes, Joe Drake, Mary Boucher, Dennis and Kareta Olshfski, Gail Patrick, Anna Delles and Noel Voos.

Monsignor advised that he has been giving a lot of thought to hours of service on Holy Week and asked the opinion of the committee on both 7 PM on Holy Thursday and Good Friday. The committee felt those were good hours so those working until 5 PM could attend. Holy Saturday Vigil will be at 8 PM at St. Joseph's in Philadelphia and Easter Sunday 9 AM Mass at St. Theresa's and 10:45 AM Mass at St. Mary's.

Monsignor advised that he was ordering Easter eggs containing rosaries to be given out as well as eggs filled with jelly beans.

He reminded everyone of the Ham Dinner on April 27th and the accompanying raffle for the garden basket and wine basket. The Fruit of the Vine wine tasting will be held on May 11th and the drawing for the lottery tickets as well.

Bruce Johnson here in Evans Mills will give to the church 20% of each sale at his greenhouse from May 20th through May 27th. A flyer will be in a future bulletin in the hopes that parishioners will buy locally and this, in turn, will support our parishes.

At the September Knights of Columbus spaghetti dinner Monsignor asked for thoughts of including a craft fair from say 1 to 7PM. We could have the crafters in the main dining room and the large classroom. We will obtain mailing lists of crafters from other churches holding similar events.

The merger of the parishes and closing of Theresa and Philadelphia were discussed. Monsignor is considering a new Mass schedule of Saturday at 4 PM

and Sunday at 9 AM. The sacred objects will need to be removed. Those chalices etc. of no value could be buried in graves. The stained glass windows from Theresa perhaps could be brought to the parish center and have LED lights installed in them. Perhaps some of the other stained glass could be made into sun catchers. The possibility of an outdoor stations of the cross was discussed.

The pews at St. Joseph's and the annex in St. Theresa's are in very good condition. Monsignor asked Dennis, Joe and Jeff to measure them and perhaps come up with some possibilities of how they could be installed at St. Mary's. Also, he asked Jeff, an engineer, to determine if the weight of the pews would be problem for the St. Mary's structure.

Monsignor stated that he was inviting the Bishop to come to both churches for a closing Mass. There are about nine closures slated for the end of June so Monsignor will be advising us as to the Bishop's schedule. Also at that time we hold the parish picnic at the parish center and each person leaving would be given a plant – symbolizing the growth of new, revived parish life. Discussion with the same greenhouse that is providing the plants for the sale was held. Gail Patrick suggested an aloe plant since that is a healing plant.

There being no further items for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.