

All Saints Parish
Finance Council Meeting
September 26, 2019

Present: Fr. Murphy, Charleen Foley, Lori Boulay, Martha Barrett, Diane Humphrey, Ed Polewarczyk, Bill Maloney, Frank Wnek.

Minutes of June 6 and 29 approved with correction to spelling of member Wnek's and Diane Humphrey's name.

Pastor's report: Fr. Murphy introduced a new draft of the Finance Council By-Laws. This was put together by Fr. Tom and member Ed Polewarczyk using diocesan guidelines and local conditions. It is still a work in progress and input is requested. All suggestions should be forwarded to Ed.

Father expressed concern over excessive time spent during meetings going over the financial report line-by-line with little results. It was suggested and agreed that Charleen Foley, Business Coordinator, send with the financial report or as lead topic of her report, attach a summary of the financial report with explanations of items that are above or below the budget/ last year's results.

Father reported on the strong come-back of the parish school. When Shelly Wheeler assumed the position of principal the student count was in the low 60's. At the start of this school year the student population is 105. Father thinks that one reason is the attraction of a classical education, reading classics, stressing thinking and reasoning. The school has reduced spending in many ways including merging teaching of grades 4 and 5.

A discussion regarding Father's letters to the parishioners in the bulletin took place. The letters dealt with the declining offertory, increased expenses, and the school. The topic of his next letter will be the Event Center. He reported that only 30% of parishioners contributed to this fundraiser.

The diocese has suggested that all parishes run annual campaigns to increase the weekly offertory. We would discuss the increase and offer envelopes for people to note their intentions. The council voted unanimously to run their own program that does not require a pledge card and asks for a moderate increase to help the parish to regain some of the revenue

lost in the past year. Members of the finance committee or other parishioners will make a presentation in mid-October to each church.

The group reviewed the schedule of fund raisers for the fiscal year. The next big fund raiser will be the Mid-coast Tree Festival, November 22-24 and November 29-Dec 1. This will be held in the new St. John's Community Center. The parish and school will receive 1/3 of the proceeds and they will retain 100% of the money earned in the café. Volunteers will be needed to make this a successful event. Questions were raised about a lack of volunteers to assist in some of our fundraising efforts. During the August sale of calendar raffle sales, some churches were not covered during all Masses. It was suggested that some, but not all, of these efforts have a committee to oversee that greater participation on the part of volunteers is achieved.

Two new revenue projects in the works are a book "The Stained-Glass Windows of St. John's Church, sale price \$30.00. This is a privately funded project and the intention is to donate proceeds from the sales to help maintain the artwork and stained glass of St. John's Church. All expenses were paid privately. Frank Wnek asked Social Justice and Peace if they would consider donating all proceeds from the suppers to the parish. His request was denied, and SJ&P will announce the foundations who will benefit later in the year.

October Count: all masses will conduct count each week in October. We have done this in the past and it is now required by the diocese to do it twice in the year, October and May (Charleen is to confirm these months). This will tell us if we are gaining or losing parishioners.

Meeting dates: Meeting dates for the rest of the fiscal year are as follows;

10/24, 1/23/20, 3/26, 4/23, 5/28, and 6/25/20.

Parish Report: The 2019 parish report will be available in all churches next weekend. The report will also be available on the parish website and has been submitted to the diocese with our end of year letter.