

NOTES from Parish Council Meeting January 18, 2017

MEMBERSHIP

- Everyone on Council took a few minutes to introduce themselves and welcome our newest member, John Parente.

OLD BUSINESS

Capital Campaign Update:

- Pledges to date are 472 for a total of \$1,022,891 (including the penny pledge of \$10,000). Total pledges paid to date are \$574,012.
- Approval received by the Priest Council to proceed with Phase I of renovation (Quinn Hall & Kitchen) - estimated cost of \$706,000 for this project.
- Year-end pledge statements have been prepared and will be mailed shortly.
- For those who have paid off their pledge (\$2,000 or greater) a mention will be made in their thank you letter concerning obtaining a leaf, acorn, dove or stone. Information concerning Tree of Life memorials.

Building Expansion Update:

- Bidding is open until the end of the month for Phase I, with expected completion in approximately 6 months. Bids are submitted to the Diocese who then gives them to us. We decide who we would like to do the project - does not need to be awarded to the lowest bidder.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers:

- Chair – Lori Psota; Vice Chair – Dave Connor; and Secretary – Eugene Kovach.
- A brief synopsis was given on what each committee does. Council members were given the opportunity to stay on the same committees or switch.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building & Grounds: See Building Expansion above.

Parish Life:

- Advent Celebration was held in December with a relatively small turn-out of about 20 children, ranging in age from 3-10.
- Upcoming events being planned are the Easter Egg Hunt and the Graduation Luncheon.

Finance: No report. Next meeting will be held to perform their half-year review.

Fundraising:

- Food & Craft Fest was held on December 3 & 4 with proceeds bringing in a little over \$4,000.
- Our 2nd Annual Chili Cook-off was held on January 7. Attendance was estimated at 170 and raised \$1,060.
- Daily Lottery ticket sales are on-going. Winners are based on the Pennsylvania Daily Number for the month of February with 28 chances to win. Approximately 20% of the tickets have been sold so far.
- We will have our Pellman's Cake Sale in March.

Knights of Columbus/Holy Name:

- Holy Name Society has been dissolved and money has been distributed. Father will be acquiring 2 statues from a Philadelphia parish, one of St. Columbkil and one of St. Patrick. The existing St. Columbkil statue currently in the Narthex will be relocated downstairs – it has been with the church since it was located on Chestnut Street.
- A plaque will be made honoring/rememering the Holy Name Society. All but one member of the Holy Name Society has joined the Knights.
- We are covering the cost of the bus for the March for Life.
- The Council is up to 63 members.

Human Concerns/Health Ministry:

- Hosted a reception for 97 people following Confirmation in November as well as a funeral luncheon.
- Sale of Love Lights raised \$350.
- There are still approximately 10 seats available for the March for Life.
- The committee will be handing out lifesavers and a footprint pin and collecting donations to help promote Respect Life.
- Super Bowl collection will be held the weekend of February 4 & 5 - instead of collecting canned goods, we will be requesting donations, with the proceeds going to Kennedy House.
- Bowl-a-thon sign-ups will be posted for the first two weekends in March.

St. Vincent DePaul: No report.

Evangelization:

- Parish retreat is being held the last weekend in February at St. Mary of Providence Center in Elverson. The retreat group has been meeting every Friday night for several months.
- **Youth Group:**
- Our monthly meeting/Christmas Party was held on December 17 with 20 students. We played games, ate lots of food and made Christmas cards for Meals on Wheels.
- Our first meeting of the new year was held on January 8 with 13 in attendance.
- Upcoming events are Ice Skating on January 27, Newsboys Concert on February 10, Bear Creek on February 17 and a Reading Royals game on February 26.
- Upcoming fundraisers are a hoagie sale from Moyer's in February, Chili's in March and Painting with a Twist on March 23.
- 12 students and 2 chaperones signed up for the mission trip in June. 8 more students and 2 more chaperones are needed.
- 16 students and 5 chaperones signed up for Steubenville.

Staff Items:

- Approximately 140 people have committed to extended adoration. There is still a time slot on Thursday morning from 1-2 a.m. that is not covered.
- Our Young Adult Group will be having a Superbowl Party downstairs.
- For adoration in the Chapel, there must be 4-6 candles burning at all times - cost is approximately \$160 a week. It was suggested that perhaps we have a special collection to help defray the cost. Another thought was to have memorial contributions for candles as is done with the sanctuary candle and the bread and wine.

Suggestion Box: \$10.97. This will be put in the penny pledge jar.

Mike Ondo's term as a member of Parish Council has come to an end after 6 years. He was thanked for his faithful service.

Our next Council Meeting will be held on February 15, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.