

NOTES from Parish Council Meeting August 23, 2017

Diane Colom and Heidi Becker attended our meeting. They are from St. Francis of Assisi in Allentown and will be starting up their own Parish Council, due to the Diocesan mandate that every parish have a Parish Council.

OLD BUSINESS

Capital Campaign Update:

- Pledges to date are 476 for a total of \$1,031,112 (including the \$10,000 penny pledge), or an increase of \$2,003 from our last report in June. We are right on track regarding pledge payments, and many parishioners have already fulfilled their pledge and continue to make payments above and beyond their original commitment. Of the total parishioner pledges of \$1,021,112 (excluding the penny pledge), total pledges paid to date are \$732,567 (71.8% of total pledge amount).
- There are 14 parishioners who have not yet made a payment against their outstanding pledge representing a total of \$10,778 or 1.06% of balance due. We have 176 parishioners who have paid off their pledge with the total amounting to \$242,488.
- Construction in Quinn Hall has been completed. Once final inspections and completed punch list items are addressed, we will officially be open for business!
- The Penny Pledge total is ????? More details will be provided at our Children's Mass on Sunday, September 10 at 11 a.m. We have received additional deposits towards the campaign: \$4,185 for Memorials and \$4,080 in Donations.
- Our Follow Through Team is actively working on several projects: A pledger reception in Quinn Hall, a Penny Pledge Milestone Achievement/Quinn Hall Open House party after each Mass on the weekend of September 9/10, and continued updates in the bulletin and on our website regarding our Campaign for the remaining 10 months.

Building Expansion Update:

- Tables (both rectangular and round) and 250 chairs have arrived.
- The air conditioning works but is not controllable. The crew that handled the audio visual for Quinn Hall did an amazing job!
- We will rent tablecloths for formal events. We can start scheduling events after the September 10 preview (provided all inspections give us the go ahead) but definitely by October at the latest.
- We looked at different menus and have decided to use Jim Kochu as our caterer. There is a \$100 insurance fee assessed for all outsider functions (not Parish related) that is remitted to the Diocese of Allentown. Additional fees will be \$350 for 1-75 guests and \$500 for 76-200 guests, which includes set-up and clean-up.

NEW BUSINESS

- HVAC Update: Cost of this is approximately \$68,000. The air conditioner unit in the church has been chugging along. We have also purchased 3 units for the Narthex and a 4th unit for future expansion at an additional cost of \$22,000. We will be separating the different parts of the building: Chapel, Narthex/Sacristy and Quinn Hall. As stated above, the church unit is being completely replaced.
- Ambit Energy: John Parente did a lot of research on this as well as compiling pros and cons. Out of 21 people contacted on our insider poll, only 13 people responded. Six said they would participate and seven said they would not. We have decided not to pursue this any further.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building & Grounds: See Building Expansion above.

Parish Life:

- We will again host "Tea Talks" for mothers and daughters, possibly in November. Heather Shainline is looking for new speakers.
- We will have a Family Advent activity, possibly with a Christmas pageant.
- We are looking at a possible bus trip to the 9/11 Memorial possibly working with the Senior Citizens Group since their trip to this Memorial was cancelled.
- Also looking at having another meeting at the Padre Pio Center. St. Mary's Retreat does events at their site.

- Like we did with our Easter Egg-spressions prayer intentions, we would like to come up with something from Thanksgiving through Advent as a way to give thanks. May also have Santa pictures available for our breakfasts in December.

Finance:

- Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Report has been signed and sent out. Our Budget for 2017/2018 has also been submitted to the Diocese. Our Sunday collections are down, which is very troubling. Our budget is based on a specific weekly collection amount to cover our expenses.

Fundraising:

Tentative schedule of events for 2017/2018 has been drafted as follows:

- August - Our 2nd Annual Chicken Dinner will be held on Saturday, August 26 from 5-7 p.m. The committee will be assisting the Scouts, who will be hosting this event. 124 dinners have been sold.
- Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Day will be held on Tues., Oct. 17. Tickets will be sold in the Narthex the two weekends prior to the event. We will also have a table set up in Boscov's on the day of the event for 3 hours.
- Our Annual Basket Party will be held on Friday, October 20. This year's theme is "Celebrate New Beginnings". Tickets will go on sale September 30.
- Chili Cook-off was to be held on Nov. 11, but the Confirmation Retreat is being held in Quinn Hall that same day from 9-3. This will not give us enough time for preparations so this has been postponed until later.
- Food & Craft Fest will be held Dec. 2/3. Crafts, candies and foods will be available for purchase.
- St. Columbkil Lottery to be held in February. Tickets will be sold starting in December.
- Night at the Races will be held Sat., Mar. 17 (St. Patty's Day theme). Tickets on sale in mid-February.
- Pellman Cakes will again be sold for Easter. Orders will be taken weekends of March 4 and 11. Orders will be available for pick-up on Saturday, March 24.
- April – Attic Treasures will be held on Friday, Saturday & Sunday, April 27-29.
- June – 2nd Annual St. Columbkil Golf Outing to be held either Saturday June 9 or 16.
- July – Christmas in July Lottery. Tickets will go on sale in June.
- We are also looking at possibly hosting a monthly dinner.

Knights of Columbus:

We currently have 67 members. There are several categories in which we participate.

Church: Adopt a Seminarian – Matthew Kuna who was here during Vocations Week. Monthly breakfasts will be held starting in October. Holy Name Scholarship will now be the Knights of Columbus Scholarship. Fundraising for this will begin in March. The Knights will be cooking for the Basket Party on October 20.

Community: Par Recycling – We are trying to schedule a second event in October. We are still waiting for confirmation on what stretch of highway we have been assigned for the Adopt a Highway Program.

Council: C.O.A.L. (Chance of a Lifetime) Tickets which benefit the State Council Knights Scholarship Program are now being sold. We will also be selling Football Sweepstakes Tickets in August/September.

Culture of Life: Rose Drive will be held first weekend of October.

Public Relations: Our website is now up and running. Web address is: <https://kofc16544.org/>.

Youth: No report.

Family: Family of the Month – We need to form a small committee to select families. We will select a Knights Family of the month on a Semi-Annual basis and a Parish Family on a Quarterly basis.

Misc: There has been a change in our 4th Degree Uniforms.

Human Concerns/Health Ministry/St. Vincent DePaul: No report.

Youth Group: No report.

Staff Items:

- Office staff will be going to St. Mary's Providence for some "refreshment".
- Altar Server training is on-going. Would like to do a Lector and Eucharistic Minister training as well.
- Volunteer group is up and running.

Suggestion Box: Nothing to report.

Our next Council meeting will be held on September 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.