

ST. AUGUSTINE
SUMMARY OF PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING ~ January 17, 2017

Fr Rick opened in inspirational prayer. Silent roll call was taken with the following members present: Nancy Niekamp, Jamie Mescher, Mary Knapke, Steve Bruns, Jeremy Droesch, Leslie Tyler, Ben Wehrman, Therese Brown, Fr Rick, and Cindy Wuebker. Guest: Rich Stein, Clete & Rosann Prenger

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Missions- Submitted by Connie Schafer:

- November and December was a busy for the Mission Commission. Members baked and donated and baked items to the thanksgiving dinner at the K. of C. Hall and the dinner theatre at St Anthony.
- Members also made cookies, holiday breads, assembled, delivered and visited 42 shut-ins or over 90 parishioners.
- The angel program helped—45 Minster children; assisted Sr Marge Eilerman and provided gifts for 12 Auglaize county foster children. Thanks also to the additional support from Virgil and Martha Arling-- Marine Toys for Tots.
- And a big thank you. There are so many amazing and wonderful people, young and old, that spread love and joy to those in need. And the mission commission sees this throughout the year. You have supported the mission commission many projects this past year. Thank you!

Temporal Affairs Commission –reported by Leslie Tyler:

- Per the YTD Income Statement, revenue is on target. All variances for the expenses were accounted for with nothing being out of the ordinary.
- Finance committee's governance for new members is complete and will be presented to all members at next meeting. Includes...
- Labor law established by the Obama administration concerning time and half pay for salaried employees who make less than \$47,000 DID NOT go into effect December 1, 2016.
- Considering additional financial information be included in the bulletin. Currently pulling bulletins from other parishes to see what they offer. (Quarterly update with major capital projects)
- CYSC – it was determined no 'scholarships' would be given for the 2017 CYSC because the idea was presented after registration had opened. Scholarships will be awarded for the 2018 camp where registration opens in 2017. Details to be ironed out but St Augustine did receive generous donation as seed money to make this program work.
- Yearend paperwork:
 - Tax contribution letters were sent to all parishioners
 - New W4s being collected from all employees

Cemetery – Reported by Ben Wehrman

- Cemetery Board will be contacting Buehler Asphalt for quote to re-surface the drives. This will assist in building a future plan as the cost is prohibitive to completing all at one time.
- We need to asphalt the new section that has been established. This will be done yet this year when weather cooperates.
- Sidewalk to the chapel needs to be repaired. Ben Wehrman volunteered to do it to save cost. Advised that this will need done every three years. Steve Bruns offered to help him when the time comes.

Building & Maintenance – No Report

Education-

Religious Education K-6 – Reported by Therese Brown

- We have 47 Second graders being prepared for FIRST EUCHARIST. Feb. 15 is the next Parent/Student Church Tour meeting...I also have many interested (not in the 2nd grade Program Adults and Children??) in the Church Tour....wondering if we should invite or also have another event with Church Tour.
- The Family Christmas Eve Mass went very well.
- 5th grade is in the middle of taking the ACRE test. The ACRE test is the Assessment of Children/Youth Religious Education, the ACRE must be given in every parish and school annually. "Each catechetical leadership will assess/evaluate our program to determine our programs strengths and areas of concern, and to plan more effectively."
- 6th grade will be doing a service project in Lent, collecting items from grades K-6 (like the Thanksgiving Drive, specific item for each grade), making a gift bag for Heritage Center for the residents and a welcoming for those coming in. They intend to make 80-100 gift bags, Deb Otting and 6th grade Catechists Laura Becker, Kathy Brackman and Carla Walter are coordinating this effort with the 6th graders involved from start to delivery to Heritage.
- PSR grades K-4 participated in a pilot program from Ruah Woods, which the Archdiocese recommended. This pilot uses Classical literature to convey the Anchor Standards for the Theology of the Body in the Archdiocesan Graded Course of Study. All of our Catechist completed the pilot program and turned in surveys. I have attend several workshops and webinars in regards to this. They are completing pilot programs for 5 and 6 in 2018. And Junior High to follow soon. This can be seen on the Archdiocese website under Evangelization and Discipleship.
- We (St. Augustine) have renewed our subscription to FORMED.org we have 97 parish members that have signed up and taking advantage of this subscription. Catechists are telling me that they are using the materials as resources in the class room.
- Planning VBS to be the 3rd week in June, June 19-23rd. VBS will be for graduates of K thru 3 grade, the theme will be "Splashin' with the HOLY SPIRIT"
- The Deanery hosts a Catechist in-service in January every year. We heard Sean Ater, Director, Office of the New Evangelization January 4. I had 13 Catechists attend. Sean challenged us to see the need for the new evangelization, know the church's vision for evangelization, main principals of effective evangelization and what is my ROLE? We talked about being STUDENTS of the TEACHER (Jesus Christ). Reminding us that we cannot give what we don't have. We must encounter the Master and our students need to encounter Christ thru us.
- Server training began today for 6th grade students...today was a large group session, having 3 (20 minute) rotation stations with Hal, Alex and myself. They will continue throughout the year doing small group training on Wednesday morning.

Religious Education 7-12 – Submitted by Barb Blanco

- Confirmation practice tomorrow night (1/18). We have 52 Confirmands. One of them a college student, another from St. Bernard's parish. Confirmation Mass is scheduled for Sunday, January 22, 2017 at 1:30pm. Celebrant: Bishop Joseph Binzer.
- Sophomore Diversity Mass and Temple Beth Or trip scheduled for Sunday, February 26th.
- ACRE Assessment - Freshman class will be taking the ACRE test this Sunday (1/22) during religion class.
- CYSC – Catholic Youth Summer Camp; as of December, there are 42 St. Augustine/St. Joseph cluster students registered for camps. Will promote again in the beginning of February.

Fr. Rick

- Reviewed our 2016 stats on baptisms, weddings and funerals. In 2015 we had an all-time high of baptisms and we need to channel that into an evangelization effort to get our young couples more involved in the parish. On funerals, we average one every 10 days. Weddings are steady with an average of 24 per year.
- Will be hosting a Super Bowl Party in the Parish Center. Hoping to see a good turnout of fathers and sons in attendance.
- Change for Change has raised of \$65000 over the course of 8 years. This ministry has helped numerous organizations and given St. Augustine & St. Joseph a good name in doing as Jesus taught us, "helping thy neighbor" They are in need of a few couples to join the group and Eunice Ernst will be soliciting for that soon.

Old Business:

- Cindy Wuebker updated the council on the installation of AED's in Church and into the Parish Center. Following the advice of insurance carriers, training sessions have been established through the Minster Area Life Squad on Feb 11th and Feb 28th. AED, leads and cabinets have been ordered and will be installed after the Feb 28th training. The model being put in place is the same as the Life Squads, Minster Schools and Minster Parks.

New Business:

- Rich Stein addressed the council. Made recognition of the 10+years Fr. Rick served Radio Maria on his day off to broadcast the faith. True dedication. Reminisced on some of father's great moments. Wanted to take this opportunity to graciously thank him for his years of service. Truly miss him and Radio Maria is in need of a replacement.
- Jerry Droesch addressed the council on his recent trip with St. Augustine's 8th graders to the House of Bread. It was a phenomenal display of the twelve who went out to serve others just like the apostles. These kids were optimistic, gracious, and enthusiastic about helping others and judging less. Fr. Rick asked Jerry if he would share this message at Mass.
- Mary Knapke addressed the council concerning devotional candles. We used to have a candelabra with votive candles that was used to pray for someone or in memory of a loved one. Asked if this can be re-instated. Discussion followed but no determination made.

Next Meeting: March 21, 2017 at 7:00 pm in Parish Center.