

ST. AUGUSTINE
SUMMARY OF PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING ~ January 16, 2018

Group opened in prayer. Silent roll call was taken with the following members present: Heath Hegemann, Therese Brown, Barb Blanco, Ben Wehrman, Nancy Niekamp and Cindy Wuebker.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Missions - submitted by Connie Schafer:

- December was a busy for the Mission Commission.
- Members baked cookies and holiday breads, assembled, delivered and visited 43 shut-ins or over 90 parishioners.
- The angel program brought smiles and tears to many people this Christmas. 60 Minster children received new shoes, clothing and toys. Nineteen families received grocery cards, gas cards, and a Christmas dinner. The Angel program was also able to assist Sister Marge Eilerman with her parish's needs in Booneville, KY. The needs of twelve Auglaize County foster children were filled. The recipients were overwhelmed by your generosity and so very grateful.
- Our next project will be planning the soup/bread luncheon.
- The Mission commission will be meeting Wednesday, February 1st. New members, men and women, are welcome to join the mission commission.
- The Mission Commission thanks parishioners and organizations for supporting their many projects throughout the year.

Building & Maintenance – submitted by Ben Baumer

- Our last meeting was Nov. 21, 2017. Next meetings Jan. 23 & Feb. 20, 2018 at 8 pm in the Rectory basement.
- Gathering Information and Costs for: New sign on Hanover St. in front of Rectory; Improving sound quality in Church; Cemetery: re-roof Chapel, clean, tuck point, repair stone wall at entrances & repair and paint black iron fence along First St.
- Other Projects under consideration: Continue maintenance of Church floor including under pews; any other items coming out of survey results.

Finance – reported by Leslie Tyler:

- Reviewed the Year-to-Date Financials. Income higher than anticipated due to anonymous donation. Expenses are below budgeted amount putting us in a good position financially.
- To date we have 50% parishioner participation in annual parish assessment and cemetery dues. We have received \$43,000 in parish assessments; below average. We have received \$12,000 in cemetery dues, which is average.
- Finance Committee is discussing results of the Spiritual Wellness Survey.
 - Committee Rotation: Don Kitzmiller is coming off the committee in 2018. Replacement position will be advertised in the bulletin and a template for rotation of all committee members will be reviewed.
 - Communication: looking into adding a summary of the role/function of the committee to the St. Augustine website. We will continue to publish quarterly capital expenditures in the bulletin.
- Implemented Staff Growth Sessions. Focus is to build a team effort towards the church's mission. Staff is developing some visions and factoring in some of the feedback from the Spiritual Wellness Survey.

Religious Education K-6 – reported by Therese Brown

- Following up from last council meeting...Alex is taking the 3rd grade class. No new volunteers have showed for Bus driving, Alex is going to make personal invitations to some retired Minster Bus Drivers. Christmas Eve Family liturgy went very well. Working on Lenten activities.
- We have 54 second graders preparing for First Eucharist, none for Egypt St. Joseph in our program...there is one home-schooler for their parish.
- First Eucharist Enrollment Mass is this Sunday at 11:30, First Eucharist is May 6 at 2pm.
- ACRE testing is finishing up this week.
- Gearing up for Lenten mission...we are not doing Bake Sale this year.

Religious Education 7-12 – reported by Barb Blanco

- HS PSR Wrapped up the first half of the year with Missions Presentation. We had 6 presenters this year on various missions. PSR began again in January with Vocations presentations. We had 4 presenters that were either a seminarian or nun.
- Confirmation - Collecting pertinent paperwork to finalized Confirmation prep. Practice scheduled on Wednesday, January 24th @ 7:00pm. Archbishop Dennis Schnurr will preside at Confirmation Mass on Jan 28th at 1:30 pm.
- Working on the Lent Mission project. We would like to focus our parish mission on two causes that help children with cancer - St. Jude Children Hospital and a program called Monkey in my Chair. Both were recommended by Connie Meiring. Barb will ask Connie if she can speak at the pulpit and share their story. She will also see if a representative from St. Jude would be willing to come
- Fr. Nate Cromly will be coming in March for Family Holy Hour

Cemetery – reported by Ben Wehrman

- Committee advertised for replacement of outgoing member and received three applicants. Will be reviewing and making a decision on candidate.
- Buehler Asphalt has been awarded the project to re-pave the roads in the cemetery. Work will begin in the spring.
- Projects under consideration: add three more concrete rows to preserve old cemetery stones, add a small paved pad for burial services when guest cannot navigate across uneven terrain, heavy snow or soggy conditions, replacement/fixing railing around the center monument.

Adjourn: Next meeting is March 20, 2018 at 7:00 pm in Parish Center.