

ST. AUGUSTINE
SUMMARY OF PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING ~ March 21, 2017

Fr Rick opened in song, historical video of St. Augustine and Lenten prayer. Silent roll call was taken with the following members present: Nancy Niekamp, Jamie Mescher, Mary Knapke, Heath Hegemann, Steve Bruns, Leslie Tyler, Connie Schafer, Ben Wehrman, Ben Baumer, Barb Blanco, Fr Rick, and Cindy Wuebker.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Missions- Submitted by Connie Schafer:

- Soup/Bread Luncheon will be Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at the K. of C. Hall at 12:00 noon. All parishioners are invited to a feast of homemade soups and breads. Guest speaker will be John Matthews who worked with Mother Teresa (St. Teresa of Calcutta). Free will offering.
- Mission Commission members will be gathering Wednesday, April 5th at 1:30 pm and visit the parishioners of St Augustine and St Joseph who are shut-ins or the age of 90+. They will receive a small potted plant. There are quite a few people to visit.
- The mission commission usually does not meet in May, but we are having a rosary making workshop. A request has been received from Fr. Steve Dos Santos, CPPS, Director of Vocation Ministry. He has learned that young people are very much interested in learning about new devotions. And has been sharing with them the Precious Blood Chaplet, but he does not have a large supply of simple chaplet rosaries to give away. He has asked if the mission commission might be willing to make some chaplet rosaries. This would be a way to spread devotion to the Precious Blood, and thereby hopefully draw people to our community and our sister communities.
- The mission commission has made donations to the youth programs of the religious education program. In February, Alex Clune and students in the Edge program came to a meeting and explained the program. April 6th meeting Stacie Lamm and girls from Little Flowers Girls Club will be explaining their program.
- Some dates to save—parish garage sale will be July 17-18-19. Items can be brought to the hall on Sunday, July 16. The Taste & Toast will be Sunday, October 29, 2017.

Building & Maintenance – Reported by Ben Baumer

- Next Building & Maintenance meeting is April 25th at 8:00 pm
- Altar crowns have been taken down to be refinished. We estimate this project to take three months. Once they are done the scaffolding will be brought back in and crown put back into place.
- Church painting in near completion. This spring painting of the north side stained glass window frames will be stripped and repainted.
- Potential projects in the future: updating the Hanover Street sign, replacing flooring in the rectory basement, carpet squares in the remaining classrooms.
- Two questions raised during discussion. Can we add salt utility boxes at the entrances of church? This will be looked at. The other was, can we add a St. Augustine statue on the premises. That also will be looked into.

Temporal Affairs Commission –reported by Leslie Tyler:

- Year to date financials were reviewed. Our income is higher than budgeted. We are on target with expenses. We are under 3% variance from budgeted to actual expenses.
- Finance Committee has drafted a Capital purchases 3rd quarter review to update the parish where and what money is being spent on. Once approved, it will be published in the bulletin. Finance committee looks to add this regularly to keep the parish informed.

Cemetery – Reported by Ben Wehrman

- Will be adding finishing asphalt coat to the new section created. Estimated cost is \$8690. We will also need to reseed the area.
- Railing around the center monument has been damaged. No one has come forward and owned up to running into it. Will be working on its repair.
- Will also be addressing the low spot that collects considerable amount of water.
- Our 5 year outlook includes: purchase of a new tractor \$30K-\$35K; two new lawn mowers, resurface the blacktop throughout the entire cemetery. We have requested quotes to re-surface the asphalt. We may have to do in phases or do a capital campaign as it will be a much larger project than funds allow.

Education-

Religious Education K-6 – Submitted by Therese Brown

- Formed.org had an increase of users to 128. Also an increase in programs, radio audio, and children movies
- I have asked all catechist to show the children's session in the Forgiven series on "How to make a good confession"
- Progress is being made on the Archdiocese's Catechetical Institute, this will roll out June 1, 2017 and we will have until June 2019 to transfer over all Catechist and their credits. The Advisory committee still has a few meetings in person and webinar to go yet. All those who teach Catholic content will be asked to enroll.
- We have 47 2nd grade First Communicants this May 8, there are 3 of will make their First Communion at St. Joseph and those parents have also agreed to participate in First Communion at St. Augustine also. We will begin practicing for the big day on Tuesdays in April. Yet to be on the google calendar.
- The Sixth grade and catechists, Laura Becker, Kathy Brackman and Carla Walter will be gathering the items collected for the Lenten Mission in reusable baskets and deliver them to Heritage Center on Holy Thursday (off school) at 10 am.
- Parish Center attic cleaning - Rich and I discussed this, and felt the bulk of our man power is in a busy time of year and also the busyness of the Religious Ed. Center, that we coordinate doing this in July before the Church Garage sale. Rich and I discussed about weekly moving trash a few bags at time until July. In July...we discussed having a scrap metal trailer for recycling, a dumpster for trash and a station to clean and sell desks and chairs. This will give us all time to advertise for some volunteers and youth volunteers, and coordinate the effort in an efficient and timely manner.

Religious Education 7-12 – Reported by Barb Blanco

- ACRE Assessment results are expected by end of April
- Confirmation Mass ran smoothly. We have 52 new adult members of the faith. Paperwork for 2018 Confirmation has been processed. We should have next year's date by mid-April. Sophomore Ministries training in progress (38) – Lectors (3), EM (21), Greeters (12), Ushers (2)
- The sophomore diversity trip went smoothly. 38 of 50 students attended, along with one parent chaperone and four catechists. Sophomores experienced a very diverse cultural Mass at St. Benedict (2 hour Mass), and Rabbi Judy did a great job detailing some of the Jewish traditions.
- 8th Grade Retreat is May 17th, 6:00-9:15pm. Letter to parents will be mailed in the next two weeks
- Baccalaureate Mass Planning has begun. Amy Noykos and I are meeting with senior class officers on April 19th.
- Wild Goose Lenten Study has 52 people registered in the seasoned adult group, we've seen an average of about 45 at each meeting. We have a couple of parishioners from Ft. Loramie and Marion Community. Young Adult group has about 15 participants. Last 10 minutes of the meetings are spent in Adoration for reflection time

Fr. Rick

- We are a large, growing parish as attendance signifies. Recent, I wrote an article for the C.P.P.S. Newsletter highlighting the growth our parish has gone through since 1832. Many of the Precious Blood travel this to this area, often staying at Cartagena. I thought it would be nice to also publish this article in our bulletin but should have changed the ending paragraph which caused some confusion.
- Fr. Hadden has resigned from Holy Redeemer parish in New Bremen. A replacement has not been announced.
- Soup & Bread lunch will be March 22nd which is also Deacon John Schmiesing's birthday. John has done amazing things for our parish. Please wish him well if you see him.
- I have been doing some youth ministry work lately, taking teams out to breakfast and discussing the faith and how it impacts their lives. Hoping this will foster more attendance at Fellowship of Christian Athletes meetings
- Hoping we have a large turnout for the Easter Vigil, April 15th at 9:00 pm. It's the highlight of the liturgical year. The Mass, the lighting of the candle, the music and baptism of our candidates is just beautiful. We do it very well here at St. Augustine.
- Spring anointing of the sick Mass will be Friday, April 28th at 8:00 am. All are invited.
- Looking into our future, there is still a priest shortage. I would like to find and build a ministry of weekday communion presiders. Only requirement is you must be baptized, so essentially anyone can do it.

Next Meeting: April 18, 2017 at 7:00 pm in Parish Center.