

ST. AUGUSTINE
SUMMARY OF PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING ~ November 15, 2016

Barb Blanco opened in prayer. Silent roll call was taken with the following members present: Nancy Niekamp, Jamie Mescher, Leslie Tyler, Connie Schafer, Heath Hegemann, Barb Blanco, Bob Lammers, and Cindy Wuebker.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Missions- Reported by Connie Schafer:

- The Missionaries of the Precious Blood are grateful for the donation of more than 700 rosaries made by the St. Augustine Mission Commission. Rosaries will be distributed to in over 20 countries around the world where the precious Blood assists in missionary work. We commend the ladies for all their hard work.
- Taste and Toast Wine Tasting sold out again this year. We had numerous positive comments on the event.
- We welcomed three new members in November. Membership is over 110 to date.
- Distributed \$7000 from the garage sale to various individuals and organizations in need.
- Members and parishioners donated 41 baked goods to the St. Anthony Dinner Theater. This is an on-going tradition to help their fundraiser who helps two families in dire need each Christmas.
- Currently working on the Angel Tree. There are 14 families on the tree this year, all of whom are children from Minster. There are no adults on the tree.
- We will be distributing Christmas baskets to the home bound and to parishioners over 90 on December 13th. Members are asked to bake cookies for these baskets.
- Currently looking for volunteers to assist with Birthday Bingo at Heritage Center Nursing Facility on the 4th Thursday of the month.

Temporal Affairs Commission –reported by Leslie Tyler:

- Gallagher Bassett performed an on-site risk assessment. Our overall performance was good. Only had one recommendation: add a playground fence to the north and west side of the playground. Suggestion was made to contact Jay Purpus at Superior Aluminum of a possible donation of fencing.
- Oktoberfest Rueben booth brought in \$2700 for youth group activities after all expenses were paid out; Instant Bingo brought in \$4500 which is used to off-set the low collection of that particular weekend.
- Finance Committee approved a \$100 scholarship to the first 50 kids from St. Augustine/St. Joseph who register for the Catholic Youth Summer Camp.
- A second collection for Respect Life was inadvertently skipped in the month of October. Finance committee approved a donation on behalf of the parish. Envelope company will be contacted to add an envelope for Respect Life in our monthly & quarterly service.
- Year to Date financials are on target in comparison to the budget

Building & Maintenance – No Report Given

Cemetery – Reported by Bob Lammers

- Cemetery cashed in a \$75,000 CD to pay for the cemetery expansion project. Land was surveyed, tile added and new road on the west has been added in preparation of opening a new section when all current lots are sold.

Education- Reported by Barb Blanco

Religious Education K-6 –

- First Reconciliation November 16 at 6:30 pm, 47 students and their parents will participate. Confessors: Fr. Rick, Fr. Tom Albers, Fr. Vince Hoying, Fr. Charles Mullen.
- Discussion concerning the alley gate along Fifth Street and our safety concerns with an open alley will occur soon with members representing Halls of Hanover, Parish Staff, Building & Maintenance and Town Council.
- Children in younger grades are coloring placemats for the Thanksgiving Dinner at the K of C.
- Begun working on Christmas Eve Liturgy
- Catechists for grades K-6 are doing personal narratives in lieu of evaluations. This form of “grading” was well received by parents and will be mailed before Thanksgiving.
- K-4 Catechists are completing Surveys for Archdiocese pilot program on Theology of the Body.
- Discussions have started for Lenten Mission Projects. 6th^{Grade} Catechists and Deb Otting, have begun working together to benefit Heritage Center.
- Wednesday liturgies are going well, started teaching the Angelus prayer before Mass begins.

Religious Education 7-12 – Reported by Barb Blanco

- JH & HS PSR - Classes running smoothly. Teachers are getting ready for end of semester and student evaluations.
- High school semester ends on December 18th with our annual Missions presentation. We have a NET ministries representative, and Charlie Salway, from Immaculate Conception, lined up to give presentations on their mission work.
- JH Bible Study Group is growing. Currently have 50 students registered.
- Confirmation parent meeting was on September 21st. All but two students were in attendance.
- Confirmations interviews have been completed were completed last week. Confirmation Retreat was this past Sunday, November 13. Students had a wonderful experience. Had 51 sophomores in attended, all but one of the sophomores attended. 16 seniors helped with retreat.
- Confirmation Mass is scheduled for January 22, 2017 at 1:30pm. Celebrant: Bishop Joseph Binzer.
- Oremus study group is nearing the end of their study on prayer. Danae Hoying is facilitating and doing a fantastic job. She is currently looking into additional studies for future.
- Catholic Youth Summer Camp (CYSC) staff members, Christie Jenkins and Brad Pierron were here on Wednesday, Oct. 12th to promote next year’s camps. We had a wonderful turnout. 14 of the 25 students who attended last year gave a brief testimony about their experience.

Youth Ministry

- 14 students have signed up for the Steubenville Youth Conference this summer.
- Averaging 63 K- 3rd graders for Kickball & Faith activity each Friday.
- Edge Group for 4th-6th graders are working on Corporal Works of Mercy and just completed making 100 sack lunches for the homeless
- Working on an Advent Afternoon for K-3rd graders. Theme of Advent will be positive self-images.
- CYO Basketball has 50 students involved and schedule of practices and games has been established.
- Consistently have 18 for High School Bible Study.
- We had an amazing turn out for the Pro-Life Pumpkin lighting. We had numerous comments that they enjoyed having it on the opposite night of the Wine Tasting.

Old Business:

- Purchasing an AED defibrillator for the church had been put on hold until after we have offered a CPR & Training course on its use. We have been working with the Minster Area Life Squad and will be establishing a training course in January. We are looking to invite Parish Council Members, Catechists, Greeters, Ushers and staff as well as any parishioner who would like to be trained.

New Business:

- Oktoberfest Instant Bingo Booth - Eileen Homan resigned from running the Instant Bingo this past year. Staff members took on the duties to cover this year but do not wish to continue in that capacity. We have broken down the responsibilities and staff will take care of 90% of the booth operations but are looking for a committee to act as booth supervisors. Booth supervisors would be responsible for checking on the booth at shift changes, explain winning tickets to oncoming workers, replenish the ticket inventory if low, close the booth down each night and deposit the money at the bank. Ideally 3 couples would serve on this committee and one couple would rotate out every three years. Bob & Dorothy Lammers volunteered to serve on the committee for a year being replaced by Heath & Julie Hegemann in 2018, Harold & Nancy Niekamp volunteered to serve two years. We are still in need of one couple to serve for three years.

Next Meeting: January 24, 2017 at 7:00 pm in Parish Center.