

## Parish Pastoral Council Meeting September 5, 2018

The meeting was opened with a prayer at 5:37. Members in attendance included Chair Patrick Burke, Deacon Norm Horstman, Deacon John Collins, Business Mgr. Brianna Beedy, Pastoral Associate Lisa Lenard, Karen Newell, Lee Inskeep, Tina Titone, Larry Dewitt and Ryan King. The minutes of the previous meeting (May) were approved.

The first item on the agenda was a report by Deacon Norm on the parish picnic, which will be held Sept. 30. He reviewed plans and asked for someone to help usher people to the food line - Ryan volunteered. The event will be like previous picnics with bingo and children's games. He expressed gratitude for all of those who organize the picnic, especially Donna Misocky, Ron and Jean Spencer, Patty Lizza and Pat Burke. The picnic is a way to build relationships within our parish and many people attend church because of those relationships. He urged everyone to invite families to attend the parish picnic. He then reported on Scripture Safari. He asked Lisa to demonstrate the echo pantomime that the 6<sup>th</sup> graders led for each day's scripture verses. There was a shortage of teen helpers this year with more children attending (117 vs. 106 last year) but fewer teen helpers (46 vs. 53 last year); there were not enough teens participating to have Safari Gold. He then shared some poignant experiences with the children and their teen helpers, who were great!

He shared the results of the questionnaire sent to parents of CCD students. Only 6 were returned but the comments were all positive, with several remarking on the dedication of the teachers, how they help the students apply what they learn to everyday life and how excited the students are to attend the classes. Again, he stressed the need to attract more young adults and young families to our faith community and that personal invitations work better than bulletin announcements. Larry Dewitt commented that children's sporting events on Sundays interfere with families attending church and CCD and thus should be discouraged.

Next Bri addressed the ramp problems and delays at St. Joseph. The contractor undershot the cost of the railing by giving an estimate for a railing on only one side of the ramp. Both sides require railings. The cost of the additional railing is \$22,000, roughly half the cost of the entire project. Bri is contacting the fabricator who did the railing at St. Raphael, the cost of which was much more reasonable, but she is not sure how booked he is for the rest of the year. She will talk to the concrete man to find out when the railings would have to be ready. She is still hoping for an October start date. She did not expect this project to be so difficult! Regarding the west wall in Hoban Hall - Bri agrees with most of the recommendations: masonry wall repairs, window replacement and window well fill-in but is not convinced the recommendation to remove the outside stairs will solve the water drainage problem. She will discuss this further with the contractor. These repairs must take priority over painting the interior of the church. The repairs will be \$98,955.00 with a 10% discount if all items are accepted together. There is enough money in savings to pay for it.

The financial statements for both churches will be sent to the Archdiocese who will then determine our assessments. Looking ahead, within the next 5 years the windows at both churches will need to be addressed. St. Joseph's windows are in some trouble. The leading is starting to give way which is causing the windows to wave. There is no way to know how much time we have to repair them. The cost estimate is \$750,000 so a capital campaign will be required to fund this project. After the ramp is completed, the next area to be addressed will be the touch up painting behind Our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph, estimated a couple of years ago for \$20,000. There are gutter and downspout issues as well as slate falling off the roof. With attendance and contributions declining, these repairs are not going to get any easier to finance. Several windows at St. Raphael are not protected but are in better shape overall than those at St. Joseph.

The meeting was adjourned with a prayer at 6:45. The next meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2018 at 5:30 at St. Joseph Parish Center. Kathy Rigel, Secretary