

Parish Council Meeting Monday November 12, 2018

In attendance: Fr. Backes, Kevin Sullivan, Marge Sullivan, Chris Andrews, Dawn Andrews, Michelle Igoe, Andy Igoe, Godfrey Pinto, Barbara Schollmeyer, Mary Angela Boyle, Nancy Dunn, Diane McCarron, Bob Sanford

Child Abuse Discussion:

- Our Holy Hour was well attended
- Deanery Holy Hour at St Martin De Porres was last Monday Nov. 5
- Definitions of credible and substantiated were clarified
- Parish is considering another prayer service on a First Friday
- Some members of the council sent letters to Cardinal Dolan regarding the abuse issue.
- Information for parishioners to write to the Cardinal was in the November 11th bulletin.
- Feedback from the parish community includes some confusion about why parishioners need to sacrifice when they personally did not do anything wrong.
- Process of reporting sexual abuse was reviewed from material in Catholic New York.

Committee Updates:

Social Activities:

- Pot Luck supper is ready to go, 46 families are signed up to attend.
- Movie night is on for next month: Dec 7.

Finance:

- Reviewing the budget for next year, waiting on the Archdiocese numbers before proceeding.

Liturgy:

- Continuing to write the petitions at weekend masses
- Will work on a plan for on-going Holy Hours, to include educating parishioners on the importance of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
- A suggestion was made to start with a 1 hour adoration on a Friday night

Service/Ecumenism:

- Working with Taking it to the streets group
- Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service is Tuesday Nov 20 at the Presbyterian Church

Education:

- Family catechesis well attended
- November 26 advent wreath making
- Adventure with the Saints of Advent Saturday Dec 15
- Parish Mission coming in February 25, 25, 27.

Building and Grounds:

- Working on refurbishing the doors of the church, there are 2 contractors that are meeting with the committee on Friday.

- Parking lot discussions continue, Archdiocese representative is coming Friday to walk the grounds and discuss building and code requirements. There is still an issue as to whether Church Street is a town or county road.
- Septic system assessment bids are being considered. This must be done before parking lot is replaced, as the system runs under the parking lot itself.
- Package to general contractors is being prepared to update various other issues (roofing, siding, windows) on the grounds.
- 2 bids for snow plow contracts are being reviewed.
- Air handling system is being worked on as well.

Staff Updates:

- Volunteer dinner in September was successful
- Saturday Women's retreat in October also successful
- Opening the Word program is growing, 8 new people this year bringing the total enrolled to 28. Meetings are Monday evenings at 7:30.
- For Advent: Rejoice program, begins with a 30 minute video, followed with reflections and meditations that can be viewed online. Nov 28 will be the introduction video and discussion. Rejoice meditation books are being offered and will be ordered by the end of this week. (Rejoice.com)
- 163 children are registered in Religious Education this year. 1 First Communion class this year.
- Sacramental prep class was well attended by parents. 2 more classes coming up.
- 4 Catechists just received Level One certification, congratulations!
- A volunteer from the Knights of Columbus has been helping with security on Tuesday nights, one is needed for Wednesday as well.
- Prayer shawl ministry has increase in requests for shawls.

Knights of Columbus:

- Date to put up the Nativity needs to be set.

Meeting Dates for 2019: January 21, March 18, May 20