

Parish Council Meeting February 19, 2019

Pastor's Report

- Shortfall – What does it mean? Per Patrick Vogt, the collection is down \$10,000 as of January. Salaries and benefits have increased costs over \$40,000. Our surplus is only \$9,000 instead of the \$47,000 it was last year. We need to build up the savings account. A request was made for a mid-year balance sheet. We have not seen the effect the Increased Offertory Program; we are currently behind where we were this time last year. In June we will have to see where we are and make changes to staffing and expenses.
- We are looking for ways for Holy Spirit and St Joseph's to partner with each other, this will help with our current finances. We need to have more collaboration between Holy Spirit and St Joseph's Church. This will be a positive outcome.
- Lent: Holy Spirit is hosting the soup suppers and Stations of the Cross, a retreat with Fr. Palumbos; St Joseph's is hosting Christ Life. Diocese Day of Penance confessions will be from 12:30-4pm at St Joseph's and 4-7pm at Holy Spirit
- It was suggested by the council that one member be part of the St Joseph's parish council and one member from St Joseph's be a part of Holy Spirit's council.

Roof project

- LaBella provided the document they plan to send out for bids. The diocese is treating this project as deferred/necessary maintenance. The timeline is as follows:
 - February 28 – project sent out for bids
 - March 11 – pre-bid walk through for prospective contractors
 - March 20 – bids are due to LaBella
 - April 1 – June 14 is the construction window
- LaBella's costs is \$14,500 for the project. Mike Schifano requested that LaBella provide more onsite supervision/inspection that noted on the project sheet. Estimated that the roof will cost \$200,000
- Council requested more announcements and discussion with the parishioners and to have them start this weekend.

Capital Campaign

- Looking for \$750,000 to include the roof, flooring in the hall and include church altar changes, confessional, central aisle and moving pews.
- Looking to Our Sunday Visitor for running the program. Their fee is \$25,000 and it will run for three years
- Again the council requested more communication with pictures.
- Roof project may not be a problem but there is a clear need to communicate the rationale behind proposed liturgical changes. Need town hall meetings and bulletin blurbs to explain why the church needs changing and the request was made to do it before roof construction starts.

- Selling the extra property was again discussed – unless we get a significant amount, Fr. wonders what is our best possible asking price. Town states that if Holy Spirit were to connect to the sewers we would have better chance of selling property. Mike Schifano believes the sewer issue is just an excuse.

Abortion Law

- Fr. Jim acknowledged the lack of response but said it really is not as quiet as thought. He is also putting the responsibility for the new law back on all Catholics. Just because abortion is possible doesn't mean you should choose abortion.
- Ladies Auxiliary is having their February 27th meeting to discuss this issue. Suzanne Stack at the Diocese was brought up as a possible speaker.
- Options brought out were: another healing Mass or Knights hosting a rosary or making available their latest issue of magazine discussing the new laws.

The next parish council meeting is May 7, 2019.