

Summary of April 2016 Pastoral Council Meeting

Financial Report: Reports for January-February were presented. Both were normal months. Everything is basically on budget. The overall numbers are slightly ahead of last year.

Finance and Administration Commission: There have been no meetings of late since there were no personnel matters to deal with, but the commission will be meeting again soon.

Social Justice/Community Outreach Commission: Beacon of Hope Ministry conducted a special presentation regarding *The Aftermath of Suicide In the Workplace*. The Ministry's *Driving Through Grief* and *Sharing the Journey* gatherings have involved several participants. Retha Fausett is volunteering to chair the parish Visiting Ministry. The *Pack the Pantry* food donations are running about 32 boxes per month. The *Handyman Services* project reports that Kordsmeier Electric reworked the electrical system at Last Chance Ministries without charge. A possible furniture drive is being considered to support *Missions in Transition*. This year is the 20th anniversary for the Christ the King Honduras Mission. Six parish missionaries will be participating this summer; Susan Denys, Chelsea Rea, Robert Baker, Chris and Christine Seefeld and Peggy O'Reilly. The Appalachia Mission Trip will be July 12-16. There's also a *Summer Family Mission Trip* to Abbeville, Louisiana June 26-30.

Education and Adult Faith Formation Commission: The *Close-Knit Faith* group is planning a "Mary Undoer of Knots" project in coordination with Nita Danaher of Immaculate Conception Church. An 11-week course starts this Fall that's tied to developing a new women's ministry called "Walking with Purpose." It ties scripture to daily living. An introductory class begins in May. Ms. Diane Wolfe, who takes over as high school principal in July, will meet parishioners on May 19. St. Joseph teens will be attending the annual Stuebenville Youth Conference hosted by the Archdiocese of St. Louis Missouri July 8-10 in Springfield. The *Totus Tuus* (Totally Yours) summer youth program will be held at St. Joseph June 12-17. It combines fun and games that focusing on Church teaching with a celebration of the Sacraments.

Liturgy and Worship Commission: It is continuing its work with the Year of Mercy and is planning for the upcoming Corpus Christi procession in late May.

Hispanic Commission: The Commission would like to see more of an acknowledgement of St. Joseph on his feast day, either through prayers prior to his feast or liturgy during the hours of his feast with possibly even a procession of some sort. As part of its effort to support the Capital Campaign, the Hispanic community has been having food sales. The most recent was a tamale sale and they'll be distributed May 7. Tamales are also being made in conjunction with the Diaconate ordination of William Burmester in June. A fiesta event for the whole parish is being planned for September 3 in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Parish Life Commission: About 540 persons were fed at the Lenten Suppers that benefited the Honduras Mission, the CAPCA Food Drive, Faulkner County Day School, The Call Ministry and Life Choices, Inc. The Commission is preparing for three events in May and June; a going-away party for Father John and Father Robert on May 23, the Diaconate Ordination of William Burmester on June 2, and the welcoming reception on June 26 for Fathers Tony Robbins, Mariadass Vallapaneni and Alfhones Perikala.

Stewardship Commission: Preliminary conversations have taken place regarding stewardship month, but how the capital campaign progresses may impact on those plans.

Old Business: The consensus is that the turnouts for the capital campaign receptions were good. The questions and concerns expressed at them were much the same as ones parish leaders previously defined. About \$3,000,000 had been pledged at the time of this meeting. Our incoming pastor, Father Tony Robbins, has already expressed support for the project. The plan is one deemed by all to be what's best for the parish regardless of any administrative changes.