Parish Council minutes 9/4/19

Present: Bob Current, Susie Hague, Steve Lutz, John Minick, Jay Nelson, Margaret Ryan, Dan Schneider, Mary Ann Slater, Fr. Tom, Fr. Dennis

1. **Prayer**
2. **Lenten Mission**. After last month’s meeting, Fr. Tom followed up with the Fathers of Mercy. They offer 5-day missions and need to be booked 2 years in advance for Lent. We are skeptical about the prospects of getting people to come for five evenings. We also note that we have many other opportunities during Lent: men’s and women’s days of reflection, Stations and Benediction, Kingdom Builders, Alpha, small groups, and a new Bible study which will be starting in January. A big Lenten event would compete with these. Instead, we think it will be wise to simply schedule two or three evening events during Lent with local speakers.
3. **St. Patrick**. We haven’t heard anything yet from St. Patrick about the Vietnamese Tet celebration or the Good Friday Passion.
4. **New Parishioner Welcome**. Mark Wissel has been helping Monna Lee Hill with new parishioner visitation. New parishioners are called twice, with an offer of a visit to drop off materials. If a family doesn’t respond after two calls, the materials will be mailed or dropped off at the home. We have updated some of those materials.
5. **Vocations**. We have two parishioners accepted for seminary this year, giving us 3 diocesan seminarians and one studying for the Holy Cross brothers. We threw out ideas for supporting them as a parish. Maybe cards at St. Charles Feast Day, Christmas, and other events. Maybe featuring birthdays and having parishioners send cards. It was suggested that Y Disciples be involved.
6. **Senior Citizens**. We talked about a Senior Citizen event. Three nice shrines were suggested, but all three are between 2 ½ and 3 hours away. That is probably too long for a day trip. Other options included the motherhouse in Mishawaka and the Air Force Museum in Dayton. Combining events might work: a steam locomotive ride and a dinner, a Mass in a historic church and a dinner, a play at the Civic Center with lunch.
7. **Information**
8. The **church roof** is nearly done. Once we are sure that there is no leaking, we are looking at patching and painting the ceiling and then making decisions about seat cushions and other liturgical renovation.
9. **Cardinal Fest** is this weekend. The only major change this year is placing the teen dance on Thursday evening instead of Friday. This avoids conflict with high school football.
10. **Young adult ministry** has been good, but our leadership will need to shift as one leader is leaving us to become a seminarian.
11. The **Kingdom Builders** program has been very well received and the numbers are very impressive.
12. **Ray Guarendi** is giving a talk on parenting on October 10 at 7 p.m. We will advertise on Redeemer Radio, in our school newsletter, and in neighboring parishes.
13. The St. Francis **blessing of animals** will take place at 10 a.m. on October 5. The school administration thought that a school day blessing would be too complicated with our dismissal pattern.
14. **Next meeting**: We will look at our parish Evangelization. What are we doing to draw in the unchurched? To enthuse the non-practicing? To invigorate active parishioners? Please come with ideas.