Parish Council minutes 2/5/20

1. **St. Patrick’s Tet**. The council members who attended the Vietnamese celebration at St. Patricks recalled a wonderful event. We were warmly welcomed and very much enjoyed the Vietnamese Mass and feast.
2. **Clergy shortage**. We have only two priests now at St. Charles and we are understaffed. We hope for another priest in June, but that is not certain. Our parish has more weekday Masses than any other parish in the diocese, and we are second in confession times. For now we are maintaining, but if we don’t get another priest we will have to reduce our liturgies.
3. **Church renovations/ capital drive**. We have signed a contract for a liturgical architect to work on our church and we are researching companies which organize capital campaigns. There are more questions than answers now about the extent of the project, the costs and the timing. We also have an eye on the need to close the church for a time for renovations. This will be difficult working with wedding schedules.
4. **Lenten series**. We have three Thursdays reserved. On Feb. 27, Jeannie Ewing will speak on mercy with recording artist Anna Nuzo providing music. On March 5, Fr. Tom will speak on living in a wounded Church. We are not yet sure about March 12.
5. **Redeemer Radio**. Our parish Sharathon hour is March 20 at 11:00. We need some parishioners who can tell a good story about their faith. Give it some thought.
6. **Faith growing opportunities**: *Alpha* has been a good program but we don’t have enough people to continue. Our new Tuesday evening Bible study, *Our Father’s Plan*, has been well received. We are beginning a junior high group of Y Disciples.
7. **Volunteers**. We put a bulletin plea for volunteers to drive people to Mass and volunteers to run the church nursery. Neither had any responses.
8. **New members**. We will need to bring some new members on board in the spring. Look around for promising people and ask if they would be willing.

Next meeting: March 4, 7:00 p.m.