

April 2017 Pastoral Council Summary

Financial Reports: Recent collections have been a little lower than usual, but some expenses have been down as well. The capital campaign contributions continue to impress, and the church's net position is good.

Parish Life Commission: The Lenten Dinners were deemed successful. The donations for the Honduran Mission included over \$400 in cash, 1,000 bars of soap, 3,000 toothbrushes, and 2,500 tubes of toothpaste. The Community Action Program for Central Arkansas (CAPCA) received more than \$500 in cash and 1,200 pounds of non-perishable food items. The Arkansas Alzheimer's Association was given more than \$1,300 in cash donations and partial proceeds from the sale of JoeBear Apparel clothing. The Call (supporting foster children) got about \$950 in cash, 30 packages of baby wipes, 10 boxes of diapers, and 50 pairs of underwear and socks. The Commission next turns its attention to the planning of a light supper following Deacon William Burmester's Mass of Thanksgiving following his ordination on May 27.

Stewardship Commission: (See Old Business)

Education and Formation Commission: About 15 Adult Faith groups meet weekly. Some will curtail during the summer. The After School Care Building and some High School classrooms have been used, but it's also considering the Knights of Columbus Hall and the church sanctuary for some events. The Lenten classes went over very well with nearly 90 parishioners registered and 90% attendance. These helped to move the church closer to its Wednesday "Family Faith Night" goal. Summer adult planning is also in the works. A total of 24 persons received Easter Sacraments through the RCIA program. About 250 public/home schooled children have taken part in the Youth Faith Formation program. It functioned without a director this year, but Caryn Hoyt filled in admirably and kept all classes running smoothly. She also saw to it that 63 young ones received their 1st Communion. Under Hannah Zinno's direction, the Youth Ministry offered many events this spring.

Hispanic Commission: A number of retreats were on the calendar, including one for Women's Vocational Discernment. Sister Rosy collaborated on that one, and 22 young women attended including four from Conway. The Commission's food sale at the School of St. Andrews Congress brought in more than \$1,100 to benefit our capital campaign.

Old Business: Regarding the capital campaign, it was noted that the dirt work being done after the demolition of Spiritan Hall and the PAO was near completion. Funds were still coming in, and as construction begins more are expected. Groundbreaking was scheduled for May 4. Members of the Stewardship Commission met with a representative from Our Sunday Visitor. If their program is implemented, OSV projects an increase in collections of 10-15%. It also guarantees that if the program doesn't generate more funds than the program cost it will prorate it back to whatever additional funds are raised. This would also allow the Commission more time encouraging the use of parishioners' time and talent. The Council recommends accepting the program, and the matter moves on to the Finance Committee.

Pastors' Report: Father Alphones was in India on vacation. Father Tony recently obtained his private pilot's license, and he's willing to take parishioners up for a flight in his four-seat aircraft. He'd love to do this for their enjoyment and to benefit the parish with financial donations.