

Pastoral Council Meeting-January 2021

Financial Report: The Finance Council is meeting every other month due to COVID. We'll receive two months of reports in February. The priests' home now has a new roof. The expense was under \$13,000, and was budgeted up to \$14,000. Thanks to Covington and United Roofing for their good work and pricing. Church HVAC energy management systems issues were triggering possible replacement at a cost of \$13,000. For now, the system has been patched. It will hopefully hold out until the new high school building project is further along. The goal is to consolidate the oversight of these systems for the church, Spiritan Center and the high school with one company. Consolidation should also translate into cost savings. The Payroll Protection Plan government loans to St. Joseph Church have been forgiven. This amounted to over \$100,000 and helped tremendously with payroll when church collections were down.

Education and Formation Commission: It was reported that in PreK through 12th grade the St. Joseph School Enrollment is 496 students. As of December, there were 20 receiving online instruction. CARES Act government assistance money was judged for public schools only after St. Joseph initially received some. It was used to purchase consumables. The matter has been settled with no repercussions. After a COVID-related hiatus, the high school building capital campaign marketing committee is back at work. Groundbreaking for the project is expected by the end of the school year. The two portable buildings formerly used as classrooms are scheduled to be removed by April 1st. Work on a SJS budget for 2021-22 will soon begin with drafts being drawn up in February and submitted for approval.

Old Business: An update on Mass attendance as it related to COVID restrictions was given. During the Christmas season, the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass had the highest numbers with 480 with overflow to adjacent spaces. The others were all 200 or less. This is a day by day situation that is far from over.

New Business: The Pastoral Council three-year terms of Sandra Lopez, Daniel Mangum, and Mike Harrell have expired. Their commitment to service has been much appreciated. Their departure left three vacancies, but they've been filled by new volunteers Susan Gatto, Steve Bailey, and Emily Cobb. Since there were no other candidates they're being automatically seated without the need for an election. Jane Royal and Michael Burmester's first terms were also expiring, but they've have agreed, as allowed, to serve another three years.

Pastor's Report: Father Tony expressed his relief that the COVID vaccine was being made available. For the people who are suffering, he said, it can't come out soon enough. Father also asked for continued prayers for all those dealing with the virus and for the health care providers who are treating them. He added that our Christmas services were a great blessing. He also looks forward to Ash Wednesday, Easter celebrations, First Communion and a return to normalcy. He's glad he and his fellow priests have a new roof over their heads. Father Tony has heard from Father Chandra who was recently transferred to Wisconsin. It's assumed he's liking the colder weather!