

## Summary of August 2018 Pastoral Council Meeting

**Financial Report:** Only May accounting numbers were available. June and July can be seen at the next meeting along with a year-end report. May was a routine month with not out-of-the ordinary expenses. Building collections were still coming in strong.

There were no commission reports received as most commissions hadn't met during the summer. It was noted that the enrollment at St. Joseph School is up 10-15 students. This was partly attributed to the addition of the new Spiritan Center which is housing a few classes. One of the old portable buildings has been converted into a fully-equipped Industrial technology classroom and shop. This new program is headed by Mr. Keith Wolfe.

Father Tony attended the 2018 Catholic Charities Summer Institute (C2SI) which educates adults and high school youth about Catholic social teaching as well as the social issues facing Arkansans. There was a presentation about supporting mission parishes such as St. Luke's in Warren and St. Andrew's in Danville, both of which our Missions Commission has assisted. Father said he hopes to have some of our youth attend the Institute next year.

**Old Business:** The overall capital campaign project is nearing completion. The Spiritan Center is up and running. A few minor adjustments, such as sound-proofing a couple of rooms, are being made. With the leveling of the old parish hall, all that's left is the construction of the new parking lot. Thanks to the generosity of three anonymous donors, it should be completed before Christmas if weather or some other obstacle doesn't impede progress. This will also hasten progress on the next building project on the horizon. This capital campaign's end cost is expected to be under budget. The remaining debt will be financed by a Diocesan loan.

Improving the church's A/V system continues to be researched. Bulb replacement will always be an issue until we move to laser projectors. There's also the length of throw from the back to the front of the church and which system is best-suited for that issue. The difficulties that have existed with the present system could also be a simple software problem. It's hoped a clearer picture might develop by the next Pastoral Council meeting.

**Pastors Report:** Father Tony was looking forward to the School Bazaar, and he was pleased with the success of the Arkansas Charismatic Conference held here. He said it was a joy for him to see it at a parish church rather than a hotel convention hall. "Seeing people engaging their faith and healings of all different kinds brought joy to my heart." It was pointed out that financial grants from the city's Advertising and Promotions budget might be available to help with costs if the conference is held here again next year. Father also said it was a great blessing for him to attend the Steubenville Youth Conference in Missouri. Close to 90 parish young people went along. He hopes to see the attendance grow for that and is working with Youth Minister Morgan Gatto to bring Catholic youth in our area together for an event. Father mentioned changes coming to the school Masses at which confessions will be heard before and after, along with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Rite of Benediction. He also planned to return to Mexico shortly to meet with the Carmelite Sisters at their Motherhouse in Mexico City and to revisit the Our Lady of Guadalupe Basilica.