

Summary of September 2018 Pastoral Council Meeting

Financial Report: June and July were straightforward months. Both were accepted with little discussion. There was a question about utility costs past and present. The assessment is that those costs will be cheaper with the new building. There was also the presentation of a year-ending fiscal report. There were about \$1.9 million in collections which was pleasing considering the recent capital campaign. Overall, the consensus was that the financial health of the parish is very good.

Education and Formation: SJS Principal Diane Wolfe stated enrollment is up from 430 last year to 451. Preschool is maxed out at 80 with a waiting list. The new parking lot work has been minimally invasive thanks to the oversight by Nabholz Construction. Ms. Wolfe noted there is now a five-member steering committee looking at development plans for a new high school.

Stewardship Commission: It's focused on planning for Stewardship Month in October. Given all the emphasis on treasure with the capital campaign, the spotlight will shift to devoting time and talent for the parish's benefit. The video presentation to be seen at all Masses will reflect that.

Social Justice/Charitable Outreach Commission: (Missions Committee) The Committee has agreed to sponsor the Spiritan Center cleaning fees for the upcoming City of Hope Gala on October 20. It has also agreed to fulfill CoHo's request to sponsor its Hope Home for Men for the next 12 months. This amounts to \$5,000. That money will be used to support activities, food, equipment and programming for the Home's clients. Plans to develop a mission project with the St. Joseph parish in Arlington, Texas have been dropped in favor of seeking a location in South Arkansas with similar intent. Input will be sought from Fr. Eddie D'Almeida and Fr. William Burmester.

Hispanic Commission: New commission member Sandra Lopez was introduced. The Hispanic community's "Kermes" or religious bazaar was set for September 29. It includes food, games, soccer, music and dancing all of which would benefit the capital campaign. A Hispanic Youth Group is launching October 1 and is open to 13-18 year olds. It has eight members on its advisory board. The group will be working closely with Church Youth Minister Morgan Gatto on volunteer opportunities and cooperative events.

Old Business: There were no final numbers yet on the completion of the Spiritan Center, but it will be under budget. Money has been coming in quicker than expected as far as pledges are concerned. The new parking lot is well underway. Fixing or replacing the church's audio-visual system is still in the works. One bid to replace the two existing projectors was too expensive. One of them is already down for repairs. The laser option is being studied with the length of the throw from back to front figuring into the cost. Hope to have those numbers soon. The replacement of the current bulbs was happening a couple of times a year at \$2,600 each.

Pastor's Report: Father Tony went to Mexico in August to attend a conference of the Missionary Carmelite Sisters of St. Teresa which only takes place once every six years. He said it was "spirit filled" and a "great blessing" to see what great work these Sisters do around the world, including St. Joseph's Hispanic community. Father also spoke of the need to communicate that "We are one." He said there is no "us and them" in the work of educating our youth in the faith, whether through St. Joseph School or the Faith Formation Office. Finally, Father spoke of the Church being in crisis mode and that trust has been hurt by these continuing reports of priestly abuse. He is pleased with the way our Bishop is addressing the issue to maintain a safe environment. Father asked that people pray for the victims and proper justice. "Hopefully, we'll ultimately reach a place where we can heal and move on."