

St. Thomas More Pastoral Council Minutes

September 12, 2017 Meeting

Members Present: Fr. Hunke, Liz Fox, Monica Mora-Handlos, Abby Skradski, Joe Pesek, Emily Boisseree and Connie Gewinner

Members Absent: Betty Piskorski, Travis Washington, Kelly Sobetski

Guest: Sr. Pauline Schwandt

Opening Prayer: Fr. Hunke

OLD BUSINESS:

Archbishop's Annual Appeal: Fr. Hunke hopes to wrap it up quickly. He also hopes to see participation from more of the parish rather than by just a few who have been very generous. He would like to see everyone do what they can. This year's goal is \$42,787.48.

Capital Campaign Kickoff: Feasibility Study phase of our Capital Campaign will begin the middle of October. Fr. would like to see the lights, carpet, bathrooms finished and the entryway updated. The cry room was in question but Fr. sees the need in keeping it. He would like to see the lights and carpet finished before school starts next Fall.

Parish Organizational Fair: Abby will put in a bulletin announcement next week. Joe Pesek will schedule the groups. They will have the opportunity to share their Mission Statement/Activities before and after Mass in the back of church. About one group every couple weeks will be scheduled.

Bible Study: An announcement as well as a flier was put in the Sept. 2/3 bulletin. Bible Study begins Monday, Sept. 18/Thursday, Sept. 21. Connie will attend and update us. Fr. will make a pulpit announcement.

School News: Kara Wesely, Director of Advancement for the Consortium, hopes to create a Parent Leadership Committee drawing members from all the five schools.

NEW BUSINESS:

Outreach Committee: Sr. Pauline Schwandt, our Pastoral Assistant was our guest speaker. Sr. gave us a brief background about herself. At present she is part-time. After reading the Parish Survey it showed the need for an Outreach Committee. Sr. spoke at all the Masses, immediately she began with a group of 10 adult volunteers. Many good things are happening as a result of the Committee. Sr. is proud of her excellent committee. They meet monthly. The Committee is reaching out to our parishioners in skilled care facilities. She shared stories of the positive affect her volunteers have had on them. Gifts made by the STM school children will be given to each of the shut-ins letting them know they are remembered.

Part of the Outreach Committee is the Bereavement Ministry. Since Fr. Hunke arrived 1year/10months ago we have had 62 funerals. The Bereavement Committee is offering a new program: "*Seeing God Through Tears.*" Cards will be sent out to the families who have recently lost a loved one inviting them to take part of this program on Oct. 17/or Oct. 18. The Committee will be in touch with the families by phone and mail; again reaching out to them in their time of need.

Our next meeting will take place Tuesday, October 24th at 6:30pm.

Closing prayer: Fr. Hunke

Respectfully submitted by Connie Gewinner