

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
New Freedom, PA 17349
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Date: October 8, 2019

Attendance:

Opening Prayer offered by Brian Sherman

Review of Minutes: Approved.

A. Parish Manager Report/Building and Grounds Committee:

- Balance on Education Building loan as of 9/30/19 is \$280,246
- Balance of Church Roof Loan as of 9/30/19 is \$284,517
- Balance of School Roof Loan as of 9/30/19 is \$13,009
- Balance of 2019 YE Deficit Loan as of 9/30/19 is \$55,132
- Total loan debt \$632,904

G/F Balance as of 10/8/19: Positive cash balance of \$45,487.99

Savings as of 9/30/19: \$25

L/A goal for 2019/20 is \$183,600. A reduction of \$2,000 from last year. As of 9/3/19, we have collected actual payments of \$112,615 with outstanding pledges of \$39,436 still to be collected. As of 9/3/19 if we were able to collect all of the outstanding pledges, we will still be \$31,549 short of our obligation.

Faith Direct enrollment has increased to 129 with an average weekly offering \$4,690.62

Christmas Bazaar

- Need 8th graders to help
- Knights of Columbus will help out. Sign-up sheet will go out at Thursday, 10/19/19 meeting

Numbers in the bulletin are tithing numbers only. Donations are down since the Grand Jury report.

B. School Principal Report:

1. Socktober: The Student council will be collecting new socks during the month of October to donate to the clothing bank. Last year we collected hundreds to give to the needy.
2. Student council also conducted a mission day for Hurricane relief and collected more than \$180.
3. Our read-a-thon was a huge success. Students read over 400 hours and one class (Grade 2) had 100% participation and will receive an extra recess. Students who earned over \$200 will have a pizza lunch with me. Profits were over \$6000.
4. Please support our Bingo, Oct. 17th at the New Freedom Community Center. Doors open at 5:30pm.
5. Octoberfest is Sunday, Oct. 13th with vendors and fun games for kids from 2-8PM
6. We were granted permission to have snow days be work day for the students at home. Teachers will plan lessons to make it fun and if it works, we won't be required to make up those days.
7. The new students seem to be acclimated to this environment. We had a few growing pains with the start of the year but they seem to really like knowing what is expected of them.

C. Religious Education Report:

1. Rel. Ed Classes are in session for all students age 3 through High School.
2. RCIA classes meet each Sunday after our 9:00 Mass in the SEC Room. RCIC students meet on Wed. evening at 6:00pm.
3. Meetings were held for all parents of students preparing for sacraments in Grades 1, 2, 7 and 8.
4. Our Family Ministry Team has invited all Gr. 3-4 Students and their families for a morning of retreat, reflection, fun and fellowship on Sat. Oct. 19th. Knights of Columbus will assist in providing a family meal to conclude our event.

5. Rel. Ed and School are teaming up again this fall in sponsoring a Claire's Gourmet fundraiser. Youth Group is also sponsoring their annual citrus sale at this time.
6. Rel. Ed Students and Families will participate at our Dio. Rosary Congress during the week of Oct 7-13.
7. An Internet Safety Assembly will be held on Wed/Thurs. Oct. 23rd and 24th for all middle and high school students and their Parents. All adults are encouraged and welcome to attend
8. St. John's continues to host a Diocesan Good Shepherd Catechesis Course one weekend per month throughout November. As our Good Shepherd Program grows, our need for ongoing training expands.
9. The Diocese has again invited our Good Shepherd Staff to be presenters at our upcoming Women's Conference on Sat Oct 12th and at our Catechetical Conference on Sat. Nov. 9th.
10. Registration for our 2019-2020 Rel. Ed program continues to stay open. Additional Adult and Teen volunteers continue to be invited to assist with our Catechist Teams.
11. Our Rel. Ed and School staff team-up as often as possible, highlighting that "We are one Faith Family". (This includes Parent Meetings, presentations, Family Prayer Sessions, Retreat Days, mission projects, fundraisers and seasonal events)
12. We continue to search-out and make available, meaningful opportunities for our students to experience and practice their faith, while encouraging faithful attendance and participation including both our school and Rel. Ed.

D. Youth Ministry Report:

No report. Sr. Jane praised the job that Chris is doing with the teens.

E. Evangelization Committee:

n/a

F. Pastor's Report and Comments:

1. 40 hours went well. The Bishop enjoyed his visit
2. A priest from Brazil (Fr. Phillip) will be in Washington, DC. Father will host him the weekend after next.

3. Father met with officials concerning liability issues on security. Parish police officers are well trained and can react as needed. They are shielded by their own insurance. All St. John's facilities will be scanned and put into the police database.
4. Carla and Father met with Jeff Rosenstein to go over financials. New program (one-step-up_ to reach out to people to step up and increase donations.
5. The playground almost finished; borders have been ordered
6. LED lights installed in social hall
7. New server in social hall
8. Need co-chairs for Christmas Bazaar next year in order to continue. Father hopes to continue the Bazaar or replace it with bingo 1x/month. Council members favored the bingo option.

G. General Discussion:

1. By-laws and constitution need to be sent (Gary). Will be sent by Fr. Bob this week.
2. Council has not had an open / town hall meeting (Gary)
3. Possible questionnaire about parish climate

Closing Prayer offered by Brian Sherman

Respectfully submitted, Bo Gifford /for Rosemary Hartman

Next Meeting: November 12, 2019 at 7 PM