

St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Church
Parish Pastoral Council
January 12, 2023 - In Person & Zoom meeting @ 7:15

Attendance: Meg Schon, Josh Harry, Jason Richards, Randy Gomez, Mirka Deza, Brian Werner, Susan Grebasch, Fr. Ken, Fr. Ryan, Deacon Fred, Deacon Don, David Reising, Nick Rahe

Opening Prayer - Father Ken

November Meeting Minutes - Approved

New Business:

Faith Formation Update

- First Communion/Confirmation
 - 68 for First Communion
 - 4 of these children will receive Confirmation, as well
 - The Church teaches that if one has not been baptized (or was baptized in another Christian denomination), they must receive baptism, confirmation, and first communion at one time - plan will be for these 4 to receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil (similar to standard RCIA practice)
 - 82 kids in Confirmation (40 in 1st year, 42 in 2nd year)
 - Bishop would like smaller cohorts but need more volunteers to allow for this
- They Saw Through God's Eyes - averaged 15-20 people for each meeting during Advent
- That Man Is You - restarts January 26th
- Women's Bible study - starts on February 28th
- Vacation Bible School - tentative dates of June 19-23 depending on volunteers

Knights of Columbus Update

- Plan to have 3 Fish Fry's during Lent
 - Adoration from 6pm-6:30pm prior to Stations of the Cross at 6:30pm every Friday during Lent
- Breakfast next weekend, January 22, after Mass
- State Convention being hosted in Des Moines this Spring - April 14-16
 - Will have adoration all weekend from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning - anyone is welcome to come to adoration
- Planning on having a meeting next Thursday morning to gain more participation from the Knights who also attend TMIY

Committee Updates:

Welcome Committee

- 823 families in December 2022

- Started the year with 761 families in January of 2022

Social Concerns

- Reviewing committee structure and role
- Tithe of the Tithe - currently 5%, prior to pandemic was 10%
- Will host missionary priest this summer from Ghana - friend of Fr. Ryan
- Considering establishing a sister-relationship with the Catholic churches on the Lakota Reservation in South Dakota

Liturgy

- Rock Creek is now a home care facility for communion every week
 - Has an opening for two volunteers to assist with this - will conduct a Communion service at 10:30am
- Trained new families for hospitality
- New candle stand for Mary statue - revamped by Otis family
- Christmas Masses
 - 4pm - 900-1000 people
 - Midnight - 150 people (plan to keep for next year)

Finance

- Completing an analysis of donations for the previous years
- Have a Cedars account that was receiving 0.1% interest and this has now been moved to CDs (3.5% for 9 months)
- Opened an account with Catholic Foundation of SW Iowa - long-term money will be placed here
- Money is coming in for Future Phase
- At 85% with Ignite Campaign goal - commitment weekend upcoming to try to get final push to reach goal
 - we are getting 15% of donations back to parish - anything over 100% of fundraising goal will be returned back to the parish entirely
- Plan to complete northside driveway this spring - likely \$180-200k
- Phase 3 will be approximately 4 million - will launch in a few years

Father Ken's comments:

School

- 227 students signed up for next year (330 students is the goal)
 - only 20 kids signed up for 6th grade next year
 - Full capacity is 360 if every class was full
- Waiting List Policy is in place in case the private education spending bill passes this spring - would expect an increase in attendance if this bill passes

Budget

- School budget is balanced with planned increase in teacher salary with increased funds coming from parish
- Teacher contracts will go out in the end of February
- Parish budget is also looking good
- Special donation received to pay down rectory debt - \$32k left on this loan

Tri-Council Mtg

- Next Thursday - strategic planning for the next 3 years

Next Meeting – February 9

Closing Prayer - Father Ryan