

ST. JOSEPH'S

PARISH



COUNCIL

**Please see our Parish bulletin, website and calendar
for news and upcoming events**

www.stjholland.org

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH COUNCIL

Date: October 11, 2018

Time: 7:00PM

ATTENDEES:

Fr. Benjamin
Deacon Mark
Carolyn Kramer
Cathy Levesque
Katie McMicken

ABSENTEES:

Dustin Bliss
Kathleen Gray
Joe Levesque
Jim McBride
Bill Place
Amy Rogers
Norm Turner
Pam Turner

Opening prayer by Katie

OLD BUSINESS

- **Flocknote:**
 - 58 Total people so far.
 - Norm was not present for an update.
- **Faith Formation (Deacon Mark):**
 - Four new families.
 - Deacon stated that the Faith Formation program is working very well the way it is currently set-up. A lot is taught and accomplished in a short amount of time.
 - Faith Formation begins with a decade of the Rosary and introduction of a Mystery.
 - The kids are memorizing the prayers and many of them don't need to use their sheets to recite the prayers.
 - Many parents and adults are staying for the adult lesson in the Church and participating in the Rosary as well.
 - The question was raised if there should be a small charge to families each year for Faith Formation.
 - Would a fee per family each year help pay some of the Church bills.
 - Cathy will figure out what is paid out of Church funds for Faith Formation each year and if the collection for Religious Ed. each month helps covers that amount.
 - Cathy will figure out what it costs the church for Faith Formation annually.
- **Picnic:**
 - Picnic will be held on July 28th, 2019
- **Life Chain:**
 - Life Chain was successful.
 - There were around 25 people that stood outside with signs on both sides of Rt. 16.
 - There were many positive beeps of horns and only a couple of negative responses.
- **Upon This Rock:**
 - Lighting is going to be installed and all the lights will be replaced.
 - Parish council has discussed the roofing. Building committee suggested a couple of companies for quotes for roof.
 - One company took the ariel pictures of the Church for an estimate.
 - The estimate was \$100,000. That is for only the Church roof alone, not for the rectory roof. This includes tearing off of the the entire old roof and installing a whole new roof. This is just an estimate and does Not include any repairs that may need to be made once the roof is torn off. This company was suggested by the dioceses.
 - The high cost is due to the slope of the roof being so steep and the

- roof is so large.
- A local company is eager to get the bid for the new roof. Good advertisement for their company. No transport cost so there would be no taxes.
- Finance committee is meeting and going to come up with a plan for new roof within the next two years.
- Karen Klein will create a report that is shorter and more concise.
- Revenue is slowly going down because of lower Mass attendance.
- Needed to pull around \$15,000 from savings to pay bills.
- People are paying the same amount but Mass attendance is going down.
- Finance committee could use some help finding a way to ask parishioners to give a little bit more each week to stop the slide and get back to 2017 contribution amount of \$155,000. So the Parish can pay bills without dipping into savings (Joe Kerber - Finance Committee).
- We have between 40-80 people on Saturday attend Mass.
- 8am Mass between 60-81 people
- 10:30 Mass up to 104 people
- Expenses are going up and up and Mass attendance going down.
- Cathy: We did take a hit to get the Church hit of \$1385 for Church deep cleaning that isn't an annual expense and was not paid for by Upon This Rock funds.
- \$1700 for School assessment was paid.
 - Fr.: Bishop called all the priests for a meeting and he recognized all parishes are struggling, but he wants each parish to try to pay something towards their school assessments.
 - Fr. stated that we should pay at least one. We should at least try to pay.
 - Faith formation does have a monthly collection and Cathy doesn't know if it covers Faith Formation expenses.
 - We need to reevaluate faith formation costs and see if we can charge a fee for faith formation classes.
- **Bereavement Ministry:**
 - Kelly brought a flyer and Pam Turner and Cathy created flyer for funeral homes and flyers will go to families. Desserts and refreshments will be given by the parish.
 - Cathy suggested the cost be \$500 no matter what for luncheon. No matter how many people you have at that funeral luncheon. If there is a smaller funeral it will be up to Father's discretion to give money back to the family.
 - Kelly suggested \$5/person for luncheon. No \$500/person on flyer.
 - Funeral home will collect money for luncheon and the people deal only with the funeral home.

- The bereavement will be notified (Kelly) before and then Pam and Cathy will be notified and Bereavement will be notified to set up luncheon with Kelly.
 - This is a much more organized system that will make planning easier for the families and Parish.
 - When Mass is over with and some people go to the cemetery for the burial, other family will come down and eat away. They will no longer have to wait to eat until the rest of the family/friends return from the cemetery.
- **Pastor Christmas Wish-List: *See New Business**
 - Norm and Pam are a Yes for Wish List.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Pastor Christmas Wish-List:**
 - Many parish council members agreed that a Pastor Christmas wish-list would be a great idea.
 - Need Altar Cloths and Banners.
 - Green and Purple Altar table cloths are desired.
 - Donations made for Altar items and then the Parish will purchase the items on the list.
 - Roll out wish list right after Thanksgiving with giving tree and have a box by the Mary Statue.
 - The collections made could be put in the bag with collections from Mass and put it in the envelope and into safe. Each week counting person takes it and locks it in the safe.
 - Collection counters would have to be notified.
 - May not need to even have collection counters worry about it....we'll decide when time comes.
 - Katie will work on bulletin announcement and announcement for wish list items.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm, with closing prayer by Carolyn Kramer

NEXT MEETING IS Thursday, December 6th AT 7:00PM in the Parish Hall

No Meeting in November

Opening prayer will be offered by Carolyn

Closing prayer will be offered by Katie