

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes 3-29-16

Attending: Fr Bill, Deacon Jim, Rod Gauvin, Naomi Corera, Mary Cavnar, Bill Cavnar, Frank Lum, Cathy Dowling, Marie Williams

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

MI (mentally impaired) Drive:

Rod reported that the recent MI drive held by the Knights was very successful. Our Knights collected \$4600 in contrast to a collection of \$2300 last year. Rod thanked Fr Bill for allowing him to speak at all masses the weekend prior to the collection as that surely educated parishioners about the collection and increased giving.

Capital Campaign:

Fr Bill has submitted our church beautification plans to the diocese and has received a preliminary approval. We still need to submit a more complete application.

Greater Mission will help each parish to reach its goals. Fr Bill has successfully haggled down the price our parish is responsible for.

The DSA will not be held in fall of 2016, will resume the next year.

Greater Mission typically sets suggested giving levels based on a family's income. Fr Bill and all present were opposed to that.

St Thomas has a goal of \$4million: 1.107 million for the diocese and the remainder comes back to us. The Diocesan portion is paid first.

Rod looked into the rules regarding solicitation on the sidewalk outside church. The city permits allow solliciters on sidewalks, but they are supposed to keep moving.. We discussed briefly how complicated the issue of homelessness is. The parish wants to help Mary, but in an appropriate manner. Fr Bill suggested we ask her to sell the National Catholic Register. Marie offered to look into pricing, etc.

St Thomas Outreach:

In light of recent interest by parishioners in financially supporting priests and the church in third world countries, Naomi proposed establishing an official outreach mission. She thinks the parish should adopt a particular parish or diocese and establish a relationship. We will start a parish Outreach Mission working Group composed for now of Naomi, Marie and Bill.

Year of Mercy:

Divine Mercy Sunday is this Sunday. The recent all day confession, with Eucharistic Adoration, at St Francis on a Saturday went well. It will be repeated in the fall.

Additional discussion:

Corpus Christi Feast and Procession will be in May. Naomi will plan a light lunch afterwards on the parish plaza. It can be held in the Parish Hall in case of rain.

Re: St Vincent de Paul – A parishioner stated to Mary C that she feels the prices are too high. Feedback has also been received about the voucher system St Vincent uses: not enough money is given for groceries and the wait for a voucher is too long at the office. Marie will share this feedback with the President of our parish St Vincent de Paul.