

## **Saint James Parish Council Meeting      March 7, 2023**

Council members attending were: Lou Edmondson, Lorna Vertrees, Jeff Lanz, Greg Schreake, Olivia Dvorjak, Jordan Cofer, Cheri Ellis-Reeves and Father Michael Wimsatt.

The meeting began at 6:00 with prayer offered by Father Michael.

> Father Michael spoke on the upcoming 40 Hours Devotion. Lorna said she has attended them in the past. It is open prayer time that you can come and go throughout the 40 hours. Eucharistic Revival is offered through the Archdiocese and at the national level. Father Michael said that discussion on bringing the Precious Blood to Mass possibly in summer was being discussed at the Archdiocesan level and he asked our thoughts on it. No one really had an answer to yes or no. We will discuss at next council meeting.

### **Faith Formation**

- > Olivia reported that they are preparing for 40 Hours Adoration, Easter Vigil; RCIA. The women's retreat is upcoming with 35 women attending from St. James.
- > 24 parishioners were confirmed in February and 35 couples participated in the marriage retreat.
- > Greg asked about the return of the children's part of mass, where they leave mass and go to talk about the readings on a child's level. Father Michael said that happened before he got here. Jeff said that its tricky to anticipate when to bring them back at the right time in the liturgy.

### **Finance**

- > Greg told that we are fortunate to have \$600,000.00 positive cash net flow.
- > The gym floor at the school is being resealed. PTO and some clubs are helping to pay for that.
- > The school and church parking lot will be sealed at the same time. They will take bids on sealing.
- > The outside light fixtures are going to be replaced.
- > The school cameras will be updated for in school security. No issues have occurred for them, just updating.
- > The bus route will be evaluated to see if a stop in Fort Knox is feasible.
- > Sister is working on the school budget. The EANS II grant will be used up in the next academic year. They are looking for ways to supplement the budget.
- > There is a committee formed on school board for health and wellness.
- > Intent to return to see how many teachers are coming back. The school handbook for parents and families will be updated to include morality and language to set standard on how we treat one another.
- > MAP testing scores are favorable in diocese.

### **Parish Life**

- > Lorna reported that playgroup is looking for ways to be more active.
- > Health and Wellness committee is planning a walk.

- > Matthew Hobbs will be coordinating the parish picnic again this year. Volunteers are needed. The first meeting will be in April. They are discussing what type of booths will be allowed to set up.
- > Knights of Columbus are doing coffee and donuts once a month. Greg said that there is money budgeted for that group.
- > Stewardship intention cards are coming in. At this time they have received 299 cards.
- > More parishioners are needed on the stewardship committee.

### **Social Concerns**

- > Jordan said the bloodmobile is going smoothly. Donors have dropped down a little. Hoping that more donors will participate next time.
- > Lois Shinkle said that they still aren't able to ship supplies to Haiti. She asked that mass be offered for the parish St Marc and families in Haiti. Father Michael said that an intercession is included for them once a month.
- > Paul Godfrey has taken over the jail ministry. They visit on Saturdays.
- > St. Vincent DePaul Outreach has dipped in reserve to help people.
- > Sick and home bound guidelines since Covid has affected how they visit nursing homes and hospital.

### **Worship**

- > Jeff is preparing for Holy Week and 40 Hours Devotion. He is working on having 15-20 priests, 6-7 deacons and 30-40 altar servers.
- > Two of our Saint James altar servers will be entering the seminary; Chris Trapp and Andrew Dawson.
- > Father Loi and Jeff are planning on a field trip with altar servers to St. Meinrad.
- > Frank Bryan is looking at Eucharistic training, and ushers, lectors; servers are going well.
- > Cantors are few.
- > TV Ministry needs new microphones.
- > Jeff will give out certificates to the 8th grade servers.

**Father Michael closed with prayer.**

**Our next meeting will be April 25, 2023**