

## ***St. Joseph Parish News***

### **Highlights of St. Joseph Parish Advisory Board Meeting of November 8, 2007**

Father Michon reported on his very busy October: attended Priest's Workshop, Confirmation program, attended the ground breaking for the new L'École St. Jean Baptist in Amherstburg. Father also spoke of the fact the Fr. Leo Walsh and himself will be working at each other's parish presenting a 40 Hours Devotion in early December. We were also informed the Diocese is closing down the John XX111 Centre in Windsor as well as other offices in the diocese effective December 31, 2007. This will eliminate 22 positions.

The Building & Grounds Committee updated the board on the test area of sandstone on the front steps of the church. This work will be evaluated over the winter. There is a lifetime warranty on discolouring & cracking and a five year warranty for product failure, lifting and shrinkage. The boilers in the Church and Rectory have been inspected. The Ushers Club have purchased a new 16.5 ft freezer for the parish. Bob Souchereau has built a new mailbox for all parish chairs to pick up their mail. It is located in the vestry at the back of the church.

Al Masse reported a first time loss for this year in the October operation of our parish. All parishioners have to work together in supporting the parish individually as well as supporting events the parish groups present. All profits from these events go back into the maintenance and operation of our parish/church.

Al will be providing the P.A.B. with a Financial Report in January. Al also reported that the joint event between St. Clement and St. Joseph Parishes was a success and that those attending want it to happen again next year. Plan now on attending.

Discussion was held regarding the office copying machine. After discussion it was moved and seconded that we proceed with the purchase of a new copier for the office and that the current copier in our office be installed in the office of St. Clement parish as the one that they currently use is old and not efficient. The new copier will save on paper and allow us to provide a new bulletin format.

Rebecca Bondy updated the board on the confirmation preparations, French and English. The French Confirmation will take place at St. Clement's on Feb 16<sup>th</sup> 2008 at 5pm and the English Confirmation will be at St. Joseph's on February 17<sup>th</sup> 2008 at 2:30pm.

The Youth Ministry had 30 of our leaders attend a training session at Villanova on September 29<sup>th</sup> with Bishop Daniels in attendance. Don Petrozzi spent some time in the afternoon and was very impressed with the program. Planning is going well for the Vacation Bible School. A 4-hour Bible School will be held Jan 19, 2008 at St. Ursule School with a limit of 30 children. The summer Vacation Bible School will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of August.

The Liturgy Committee reported that Father is seeking new servers in his school visits and that the servers are in need of some reorganization. The Rosary will be said before Mass every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday/Sunday of the month as well as every weekend during the months of May and October. Fr. Mike is working on a letter to all Eucharistic Ministers regarding Dress Code and that a commissioning of the Eucharistic Ministers is being planned. Concern has been expressed regarding the disappearance of the Crosses that the ministers wear.

Our Fundraising Chairperson thanked all who purchased tickets for our new raffle. Tickets are still available. The sale of store cards is ongoing. More parish support is needed. A new event being investigated is the sale of Bricks in the Walkway leading up to the front steps of the church. You or your family name on a brick for \$100.00. Work is ongoing to design and build a sign for the front area of our church showing the outstanding debt for restoration as well as the amount needed for Phase V. Thanks to Bob Souchereau for making the pigeon-hole Mail Box for all committees.

Continued...

## **Highlights of St. Joseph Parish Advisory Board Meeting of November 8, 2007 continued...**

The French Language Committee thanked Father Mike for his involvement in the groundbreaking for L'École St. Jean Baptist in Amherstburg. The French Choir has been singing at the 5pm mass. Students from Msgr. Caron will be singing at a Saturday, 5pm Mass and on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November a pasta dinner will follow Mass.

The Bazaar Committee reported that all raffle tickets winners will be in the bulletin. A meeting is scheduled on the 14<sup>th</sup>. One topic will be to discuss ways to improve next year's bazaar. The Grade 8 students from St. Joseph School who helped with the moving of items into the basement were presented with the \$80.00 profit from the pop-corn sale for a fundraiser of their choice.

The Parish Constitution & By Law Committee continues to meet in hope of submitting a report to the Pastor and Parish Advisory Board early in 2008.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul reported that they have donated \$500.00 to the Windsor Refugee Fund. They will also be supporting the St. Clement Food Bank. It was noted that Deacon Ron Vermette has joined the group and that all parishioners are invited to attend their meetings held on the last Thursday of the month.

Peg Scott reported that the Food Prep Committee provided and served a continental breakfast for the St. Thomas of Villanova Alumni who had a 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary Mass at our Church on Sunday October 21, 2007. The last food sale made \$3,918.00. Thank you and please continue to support this and all of our parish committees/groups.

Representatives of our three local schools provided reports:

Lorne Rocheleau of St. Thomas of Villanova reported on the many activities that are ongoing. Father Mike made a comment as to the reverence and sincerity he saw as he heard confessions at the school. Students are preparing for Christmas by donating to those most in need. Grade 12 Religion class is holding a school-wide can drive. Board-wide Faith Day is on Nov 30<sup>th</sup> at the Ciociaro Club.

Katherine Beneteau from Mgr. Augustin Caron reported on the P.A. Day at the end of November. A Remembrance Day ceremony will be held on Friday November 9<sup>th</sup>. Their school Choir will be singing at 5pm Mass on November 17. The Vice-Principal will be leaving the school and his replacement has not been announced.

Al White, the representative of St. Joseph School, spoke about the report cards going home at the end of November; a fundraiser is underway and the school choir sang at a Anglican Church in Windsor and will be singing the national anthem at an upcoming Windsor Spitfire game..

We are grateful that we have representatives from our local schools, sharing with us and with their school communities what is happening within our Parish. Merci/Thanks.

Under unfinished business, Don Petrozzi reported that he, Dominic Aversa and Father Michael Michon have been invited to attend and participate in ongoing discussions regarding the future of St. Paul's Parish. Also participating in these meetings are the pastors and representatives of St. Paul, Sacred Heart, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and Corpus Christi, along with Bishop Anthony Daniels, a facilitator and a recording secretary.

P.A.B. meetings are held the second Thursday of each month and are open to all parishioners.