

Parish Advisory Board Meeting Highlights - April 10, 2008

Fr. Michon reported that First Communions will begin this weekend. It was also agreed that Fr. Michon will lead a retreat for the PAB and Finance committee on Saturday May 24/08 at Oxley.

Building and Grounds Committee reported that there is hope that the Belfry repairs will be completed by October. A firm cost of this not yet available. Repairs to the front steps awaiting approval from the Amherstburg Heritage Committee. These repairs will be paid for by our Food Prep Group. Thank you! The Baptismal Font is being repaired by Bob Souchereau and Paul Deslippe. Our church and grounds will be part of the Amherstburg Garden Tour.

Finances reported that as stated in the parish bulletin on April 6th that for January, February and March we had a \$6,821.34 deficit. It was noted that this is a time when a number of parishioners are away on vacation.

Rebecca Bondy, our Pastoral Minister, reported on the ongoing preparation for the upcoming First Communions. Each child will receive a certificate and a medal from the parish, a prayer book from the Altar Society, and the K.of C. will give each child a rosary. The preparations for the Steubenville trip are ongoing. The Vacation Bible School is pending the recruitment of adult volunteers.

The Fundraising Committee noted that all parish groups have come together to host a "Mother's Day Brunch" on Sunday May 11/08. Many thanks to all for their help in this event.

The French Language Committee reported that their next meeting will be April 27/08

The Altar Society has received their license for the Nov 1st & Nov 2nd bazaar raffle. Thanks to Suttons for again paying for the printing of the raffle tickets. There will be a pizza and dessert supper for the St. Jean Baptist School Choir who will be singing at the April 26/08 French Mass.

Knights of Columbus report that Larry Lafontaine will be attending our meetings as a liaison with our K.of C. council Grand Knight.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul reported that their annual breakfast will be held April 27/08 at St. Clement's Church with breakfast to follow at the K. of C. hall for \$10.00. Our parish donated a used kitchen refrigerator to the society. We were informed of their annual Sleep Walk fundraising event as well as their September 13th golf tournament at Hide-A-Way Golf.

Food Prep Committee reported that their last sale of food items will be on April 29/08 from 9am till 6pm.

School Liaisons - St. Thomas of Villanova: Lorne Rocheleau provided a detailed list of the many events ongoing at the school. Among these items is a 12-hour fast where \$1000.00 was raised; Grade 10 students had their EQAO test March 27; Grade 10's had a retreat at Guestwood; and Parent-Teacher interviews will be on April 24th.

École Mgr. Augustin Caron: Tammy Bondy reported that First Communions will take place within the next three weeks; the school will honour Earth Day; a school Mass will be on April 29th at 9:30am; and Sister Louise Turcotte will be here from Quebec on May 29th.

St. Joseph: Al White spoke of the parent interviews and report cards going home; the choir will be competing in the Kiwanis Music Festival; 29 Grade 8 students will be traveling to the Muskokas; and a new sound system has been installed in the gym.

Unfinished Business: Fr. Michon reported that the pastoral plan will continue to be worked on and a new Parish Facilities Usage form was approved by the parish advisory board. Note that the use of any room within the church must have a form filled out and filed.

New business: There was discussion about a parish mission with 'Stewardship' as a possible theme. It was noted that there is a need for volunteers to sit on the nominating committee in accordance with our parish constitution and bylaws. Elections take place in May.

The next meeting will be June 12th at 7pm. Note that these are public meetings and all parishioners are welcome.