**St. Maria Goretti**

**Pastoral Council**

**Meeting Notes**

**November 8, 2017**

Members Present: Father Chung, Deacon Peter Niche, Deacon Steve Vandercrone, Janna Kerr, Maria Richardson, Cheryl Ryan, Kim Staudt, Linda Hudak, Douglas Smith, Charles Amuso. Members excused: Bic Nguyen, Ron Boak, Dave Mazeroski, Huynh Kim Saner.

Father Chung opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:00 p.m.

Reports:

1. **Parish Update** – Father Chung reported the following:
   1. The roof repair has been completed, funded through the Heritage of Faith/Vision of Hope program.
   2. The replacement of lighting with LED bulbs is almost complete in the church. The plan is to replace all bulbs, inside and out, with LED bulbs to save on the use of electricity and its cost.
   3. All Christmas trees that will be used in our church will be donated by Rhoads Gardens this year. They will provide the size and the type of trees that we request.
   4. The Parish Forty Hours Devotion this year will have an expanded participation with representatives with representatives from our ministries, the PREP Program, and many visiting priests at the Closing Ceremony on Tuesday evening. The celebrant for the ceremony was Bishop McIntyre. The adult choir performed, and the procession went through the parking lot along Cowpath Road and back to an outside altar in the center of the circle outside of the Narthex. The changes were very well received by the parishioners who participated.
   5. Planning will begin on November 16th for the celebration of the 65th Anniversary of the Founding of St. Maria Goretti Parish. The celebration will include an opening and closing ceremonies as well as many other events, including anniversary dinners. A parish trip to Rome is also planned along with many Youth Group activities. The events will include information about the proposed parish building plans and Capital Campaign.
   6. The review of the Census returns is continuing. 3,300 forms were sent out and 1,233 were returned. Efforts will be made to determine how many of the non-returns still wish to be parishioners.
2. **Religious Education/Family Faith Formation/Ministries**- Maria Richardson reporting the following:
   1. **PREP**
      * Father Chung and April LeBrocq visited 6th and 7th Grades to recruit Altar Servers.
      * All PREP students attended 40 Hours Devotions.
      * Confirmation is in March 2018
        1. New information packet was sent to all religious school families to make sure that no one misses communications in October.
        2. A Parent Meeting took place on November 2nd to review the packet and set expectations for the families.
        3. This year, each student will be required to interview a ministry leader and submit their report on the set questions by January 1, 2018.
        4. There will be one Confirmation Retreat this year when all 80 students who are preparing will attend. The Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, January 6, 2018.

* Classes will include mid-term exams, which are scheduled for November 26-28.
* The Christmas Pageant will be a Parish Sing a Long on December 13th.
  1. **Family Faith Formation**
     + A Youth Mass was celebrated on November 4th.
     + A group of our Teens will attend the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis on November 16-19, 2017. They will bring trading items – Hershey candy and Philly Bucket Hats.
     + Teen Game Night is scheduled for November 21, 2017.
     + Our Youth Group is registered for the Franciscan University of Steubenville Conference on June 22-24, 2018.
     + Our group is also registered for the Catholic Heart Workcamp on July 21-28, 2018.
     + The Luminary sale is scheduled for December 9 – 10, 2017.
  2. **Ministries**
     + There has been a great and positive response to the Confirmandi interviews.
     + The Club 50+ trip to Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster is scheduled for December 15, 2017. There is a wait list to participate.
     + The Donut Social is moving to the Narthex in January 2018 and will no longer include coffee. Help is needed to continue this ministry.
     + The new Altar Servers are being trained at this time.
     + The Giving Tree will be limited to 2,500 angels posted in the Narthex. The angels will be posted on December 2nd with gifts due back to the church by December 17th. Gifts will be sorted on December 20th.

1. Committee Reports
   1. Kim Staudt reported for the **Welcoming Facilities Committee** that Father Chung and the staff met with Jay Clough and Stacy Thomas, architects at KCBA Architects to review facility needs.
   2. The draft plan includes the following:
      * A Family Life Center on the current site of the Parish ball fields. This building will include classrooms and offices for PREP, a gymnasium for CYO programs, and a meeting hall that could be rented for outside events. The Family Life Center will also include space for the Mater Dei Child Care Program.
      * A new Parish Center that will include offices for Parish staff, meeting rooms for Adult Faith Formation and a meeting space connected to the Narthex that will be used for gatherings that follow Masses or other services.
   3. KCBA Architects will provide presentations at Parish gatherings as the Capital Campaign begins.

Father Chung closed the meeting with a prayer.

The next meeting will be on December 6, 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Notes submitted by Charles Amuso