

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
January 6, 2016

It was suggested that notices of funerals and visiting times of parishioners be sent by email to parishioners.

Basketball season is underway, with four teams in each grade level. This year the Athletic Association split the cost of basketball warmups for the varsity team with the parents. St. Cecilia will host the second annual men's adult basketball game on February 27 starting at 6:00 p.m.; all proceeds will go to a local charity. Sign-ups have begun for baseball softball and track; coaches and commissioners will be needed. A donor who asked to remain anonymous bought a new hot dog roller for the Association. The Western Irish football board meeting will be held in January.

Over 50 students in the Edge middle school group helped assemble the Christmas baskets for the needy. The annual Bosco Bash will be held again here at St. Cecilia on Saturday, January 30. Over 400 students are expected to attend this Diocese of Columbus middle school youth rally. Many who attended last year had great things to say about our facilities and hospitality. Parents Night Out will resume on January 15. Only a handful of students were able to attend the high school Life Teen night over the Christmas Break; they will go bowling on Saturday, January 9, and volunteer at the Holy Family Soup Kitchen and the Ronald McDonald House in February and March.

The Social Committee provided a reception after the Lessons and Carols program on December 15 and was attended by about 100 people. The next function will be breakfast items on Sunday, February 7, after the 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. Masses.

This year 535 gifts and money envelopes were committed to the Giving Tree program; 522 were actually fulfilled. Church members contributed cash and gift cards to use for unreturned gifts, thus the parish did not have to provide funds to cover any costs.

Father Connolly reported on parish events in late Advent, Christmas, and the Solemnity of Mary. This year several members of the Children's Choir participated with the Adult Choir, the Nativity was in the former Day Chapel, Santa made a surprise visit at the 5:00 p.m. Mass and prayed in front of the Tabernacle and the Nativity and all were well received. Attendance at the Christmas Masses was 1421. Father will seek input from the Liturgy Committee concerning whether to move the Mass at Night from Midnight to earlier as some other parishes have done. Unlike last year when there was a good attendance at the Midnight Mass on the Solemnity of Mary, there were only 20 this year. There is an effort to obtain calendars for 2016.

He would like to offer families the option of having their child's Baptism celebrated at the noon Mass.

The former Day Chapel will now be called the St. Cecilia Room. A statue of Saint Cecilia that was in the rectory has been placed in the marble pillar. Pictures of the Basilica of Saint Cecilia in Rome and her relic will be hung in that room, also. Stations of the Cross will be placed in the church.

Many gifts for the Capital Improvement Fund are being received.

The next regular meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be Wednesday, February 7, 2016.