

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION/ACTIONS
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
March 12, 2014

Of the 254 families registered for pictures in the Parish Pictorial Directory, 220 actually had their pictures taken. The first proof should be ready two weeks after all material is submitted and the final directory, two three weeks after the proof is approved.

There were no objections to providing financial support for the Diocesan Men's and Women's Conferences in 2015.

Some parishioners who use wheelchairs, walkers, etc. have expressed a reserved area in the church; others have stated that they prefer to select their own pews. This will be referred to the Liturgy Committee.

Bingo attendance is rising (163 people on March 4 compared to about 110 in recent games), but there is an urgent need for workers. Contrary to popular belief, income from bingo is not earmarked for the school, but supports all areas of the parish.

Some parishioners will attend Diocesan-sponsored meetings on serving of alcohol and safety and security at parish events. The first planning meeting for the St. Cecilia festival will be April 30.

A study will be made of the parish's communication hardware and software with recommendations as to upgrading them to include social media pages, email, and other technology.

The terms of most members of the Council expire in June. The constitution states that members of the parish will be asked to submit names for nomination in March or April. It was suggested that more information be publicized about the qualifications for membership on the Council. It might be helpful to make an effort to recruit individuals with specific skills, abilities, experiences, yet some thought that the Council should be made up of people who represent the general parish as the pastor has resources outside the PPC with whom to discuss specific issues.

The Parish Pastoral Council is an advisory group to the pastor, thus references to "consensus," "voting," "ex officio," etc. in the constitution may not be appropriate.

The prison ministry has a training video which is helpful.

The Catholic Foundation has provided a grant to the parish for help with the food baskets which are provided to the needy at Christmas time.

There were 43 students confirmed by Bishop Campbell on March 3. Another student in PSR missed due to her grandparent's health and she will be confirmed at another parish. Ten adults participated in the Rite of Election on March 9. Children will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time at the Parish Penance Service on March 30. First Communion for 37 students is scheduled for May 4.

SCRIP rebates will be sent to families. It is preferred that two people sell the gift cards after Masses, so additional volunteers are being recruited.

The Bishop's Annual Appeal will be held in late April/early May. The parish's goal is lower than previous years. Actual receipts from the 2013 Appeal are within about \$9,000 of the amount pledged.

The Deaneries have been asked by Bishop Campbell to promote a fund-raising program, Catholics for the Prevention and Cure of Cancer. Our parish's representative on the West Deanery has the materials and will talk with the pastor about the parish's participation.

Lenten events in the parishes in the West Deanery have been published and are posted on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space.

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Blood Drive on March 13. The first Fish Fry of this Lenten season went well, serving about 518 meals. The KC Council had purchased another fryer enabling them to serve people without their waiting in long lines.

The Liturgy Committee has changed its meeting time to Saturdays, 2:30 p.m., to accommodate the schedules of members who are employed. This committee meets every six weeks.

The Fifth Sunday Collection by the St. Vincent dePaul Society will be held on March 29/30. In some parishes, families make sandwiches in their homes and bring them to the St. Vincent dePaul Society at a given time; this will be referred to our Society for their consideration.

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be **Wednesday, April 2, 2014.**