

Pastoral Council Report: Thursday, March 8, 2023
Theresa Krebs, DRE/Stewardship/Outreach

1) **Current Classes**

- a) **RCIA:** SSPP does not have RCIA this year, but PG does, with a total of 8 people. One of them is an SSPP parishioner. This group will receive their sacraments at Pentecost.
- b) **Confirmation:** 35 students were confirmed February 8. The Dofl hosted a lovely reception. The Legion of Mary & Ladies Auxiliary are both sending/have sent cards to the students.
- c) **Virtues in Practice:** For the 2022-23 school year, Virtues in Practice centers on the virtue of Faith (believing in God and all He has revealed). The supporting virtues will be: Reverence, Stewardship, Generosity, Gratitude, Honesty, Mercy, Justice, and Zeal. The connecting theme for all of these will be Service. My availability to be in the classroom has been spotty but I'm hoping to finish strong.

2) **Other Sacraments**

- a) **Baptisms:** We've had one baptism this year.
- b) **First Communion:** 18 students will make their First Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 16. Their retreat will be Sunday, March 19 after Mass. (We'll have a pizza lunch.)
- c) **Weddings:** August 5: Samuel Wiser & Tiffany Larm; August 19, 11 a.m.: Mary Korte & Ken Smith (Deacon Dave); September 9, Emily Lloyd (Father Mike Coleman)

3) **Liturgical Seasons**

- a) **Lent:** We had St. Clare booklets available; all were taken. Our penance service is Tuesday, March 14, 7 p.m. The school is doing Stations of the Cross most Fridays at 2:20 and Deacon Dave leads the 7 p.m. Stations of the Cross.
- b) **Rice Bowls:** have been distributed at church and at school. Updates are in the bulletin each week.
- c) **Holy Week:** Father Paulinus is working on the schedule with Pilot Grove. It should be set soon. We plan to do the postcard mailing again with the schedule.

4) **Other education/ministry/stewardship/outreach programs**

- a) **Small Groups:** are going well. We have five groups led by: Betty Searle/Jessica Johnson; Beth Rumbaoa; Deron Widmer/Eddie Hoff (Men's Group); Ruth Wells/Russell Gerling, and Bob & Lucille Horne/Deacon Dave. All have set schedules that meet their needs. Most meet on campus except for Betty's group meets at her house.
- b) **Ministry Trainings:** have been scheduled for sacristans and coordinator/lector. These will be led by Nancy Windsor. I'm working with Deacon Dave and Mrs. Nagel to begin training third grade students. This will begin soon.
- c) **ProLife:** Sara Walsh spoke to a gathering of about 30 people in the church hall on Monday, February 27. Some members of the group attended ProLife Day today at the state capitol. They will also attend the Midwest March for Life on April 26.
- d) **Formed.org:** "Pick of the Week" in the bulletin each Sunday and on Facebook/Instagram. A password is not needed to log on to the site. We have 222 registered users.
- e) **Men's Group:** This group meets regularly, coordinated by Deron Widmer/Eddie Hoff.
- f) **Women's Group:** Jill Birch and Tina Smith are coordinating this group. They meet monthly on the third Wednesday. The March program will include a discussion regarding Lent.
- g) **We have had catechetical materials available for elementary-aged students** to pick up at the weekend Masses. The materials generally focus on a feast day or other event/topic in the Church or scripture, especially the Gospel. I've been able to expand the offerings as most materials get taken home. Leftover materials are given to Extended Care.
- h) **Stewardship:** 95 households have returned stewardship information, either online or on paper. Of this number, 25 are school families (of 82 Catholic school families). School families who haven't yet completed stewardship will receive a packet in their Friday folder on March 17, to be completed as part of registration for next year.

5) **Outreach/Communication**

- a) **Flocknote:** We have 448 registered users. The Knights have agreed to pay for this service for the parish. (\$63/month.)
- b) **Facebook:** We have 1,668 followers who have "liked" our page. For the month of February, our reach was 5,545 people.
- c) **Instagram:** We have 311 followers.

6) **Other Events**

- a) We had a group of 27 students attend Steubenville, July 7-9. We are doing Steuby jointly with Pilot Grove. We have had donations from the Ladies Auxiliary and from Gordon's Jewelry to help defray costs. Waiting to hear from the Dofl and the Knights regarding donations.
- b) Totus Tuus will be held Sunday-Friday, July 23-28.

- c) Church hours have been updated: We are no longer leaving the church open all day, every day. Until further notice the hours are: SUNDAY: Locked after Mass.; MONDAY: Locked; TUESDAY: Due to a request by Women's Group, the church is open all day until 7:30 p.m. Jill Birch is locking up. After Easter, the church will be locked on Tuesdays.; WEDNESDAY: Open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; THURSDAY: Locked; FRIDAY: Open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; SATURDAY: If Deacon Dave has the 9 a.m. Perpetual Help Devotion (which he does most Saturdays), the church is open all day. It needs to be locked up after Mass.