

# ST. JOSEPH PARISH AND SCHOOL – AUGUST 9, 2020

## **Dear Parishioners and Parents,**

The Assumption Triduum taking place Thursday, Friday, and Saturday has long held a special place in our spiritual offerings. This year is even more necessary than before because of people's concerns over the havoc of COVID 19 and all its effects. This is a Festival of Sacraments. Fr. Jim Lang will be assisting me.

In this bulletin you will see the advertisement for the events. There is daily Mass in the morning and then in the evening we begin the services with rosary, followed by Communal Confession on one day, Communal Anointing on the second day, and the Feast itself will be the Grotto Mass.

The Grotto is certainly more helpful than the confined spaces of the inside church. In case of rain, we would have to move into the Church. Communal Confessions usually attract over 100 people, and the Anointing of the Sick attracts perhaps even more during these turbulent times.

The Parish Council, Fr. Lang, and I invite you to consider God's invitation to the Assumption Triduum. May Mary, the Mother of Jesus, inspire each one to join in some way for this Spiritual Festival.

## **Annual Financial Report Notes**

The Annual Financial Report is published in this week's bulletin. The Finance Committee reviewed and approved the report. The report covers only the Income and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

1. The report covers two long time deferred maintenance projects that are now completed: restoration of the Four Thought Center and the interior renovation of the parish church. Together the cost was about \$600,000 and is completed without debt. Funds came from the Gaudete Campaign Extended, special gifts, realized gains from the Stock Market, support from the Diocese of Youngstown, and in-kind donations. Thank you to those who contributed.
2. The parish is undertaking this year, 2020-2021, the last of a long series of deferred maintenance projects. The building adjacent to the pavilion is scheduled for removal. It sits improperly and directly on the property line, presents a fire hazard to the new building of our neighbor, and would not receive health authorization for the cooking facility.
3. The Food Shelf which is housed in part of this building is looking at two new sites, one on the corner of Waterloo and Schaeffer owned by the parish, and a second site being offered by the K of C on their property. The parish also offered them \$5,000 toward their new building. The current location of the Food Shelf had become a safety concern to our students who use the playground until 6:00 pm on school days. While the Food Shelf accommodated this, it limited them. The new location will also give them a restroom facility that is not currently available at this time.
4. The budget for the current year 2020-2021 is positive. We have been helped by the CARES Grant as previously reported. The Parish collections are returning and the enrollment in the school appears to be up by about 20%. I expect to place in the bulletin next week some of the plan that we have developed to make the school safe but educationally superior.