

April, 2016

Allow me to offer a few highlights regarding the pastoral State of our Parish...

Since July 1, 2015

- 30 Baptisms
- 57 1st Communions
- 7 weddings (4 coming up next month!)
- 35 Funerals
- >300 youth in Faith Formation
- Close to 300 in St. Cecilia School
- +/- 70 Adults and Young Adults in Bible Study
- +/- 40 men in Breakfast Prayer
- 25 people involved with Veterans and Craft Group
- Many parish members are involved in the KofC and Columbiettes
- Our Advent/ Lenten Vespers, Evenings of Reflection, Parish Mission and Rosary Prayer Services were well attended and very meaningful
- over 100 families participated in St. Cecilia Sings! raising over \$36K allowing us to make a good dent in a number of needed improvements to our campus, provide scholarship \$ for faith formation and meet a number of other needs of our parishioners. With the remaining funds generated and more that we hope will come in we plan to enlist a company to give us a full basement to steeple assessment of our campus buildings, systems and property.
- Our ministry to the homebound is growing
- Our ministry to those with special needs is consistent
- Our OUTREACH endeavors are exemplary
 - Monthly collections for Outreach have brought in nearly 30K, most of which has gone out to help support
 - New Covenant House
 - St. Joseph Parenting
 - Wilson Food Pantry
 - LFC Food Pantry
 - Haitian Community Center
 - St. Charles Parish
 - 30 Hour Famine
 - With monetary Donations
 - food at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter
 - Gifts at Christmas time
 - Numerous local charitable causes as well as other national and international charities
- Social Activities like Mardi Gras and Hunger Awareness Dinner were well attended, fun and enlightening
- Your participation in Our seasonal and weekly food and gift collections is inspiring

The WORK of the Church is being well attended to and participated in here at St. Cecilia

For the last year we have been studying the findings and initiatives of our recent Diocesan Synod. Our Strategic Planning Task Force has been hard at work reviewing the findings of the survey results we participated in last winter, eliciting thoughts and evaluations from your staff and many of our lay leaders and are about to present to you and Bishop Frank our Strategic Plan for the next few years. We have discerned that the Church of St. Cecilia would benefit best at this time by focusing on three of the major initiatives promulgated by the Synod delegates.

- Liturgy and Worship
- Catechesis and Evangelization
- Community Life

(Update: See Breaking News for more information)