

ST LEO PARISH TOWN MEETING, MAY 16, 2018 (SUMMARY)

Parish Town Meeting was held on May 16th, 2018 at St. Leo's in the church. Thank you to the approximately 100 people who were able to attend. Knowing those who were not able to be in attendance still are very supportive and involved in our St. Leo's Church, please find below the outline of the meeting, followed by summarized Questions and Answers.

Opening Prayer- Fr. Joseph Catanise

Welcome and overview of the meeting- Tim Salata, Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson

Topic #1: Capital Needs & the Selling of the Old Church Hall – Tim Thomas, Building & Grounds Chairperson

- A 5 year Facilities Plan was conducted by the Buildings & Grounds Committee submitted to Father Joe and the Finance Council. This Plan was required by the DOR (Diocese of Rochester) to be done by all parishes. (The power point presentation can be viewed on the St. Leo Website at stleochurch.org or in the Parish Office.)

In Summary: A) Estimated Cost \$350,000- \$500,000 for Church & Rectory (1-5 years)

1. The church roof needs repair or replacement.
2. The Parking Lot needs to be Milled and Paved
3. The rectory boiler system needs updating
4. The HVAC Unit in the Classrooms (Parish Center) will need repair/replacement
5. Parish Center Flat roof needs repair/replacement

B) Estimated Cost \$150,000- \$200,000 for anticipated Capital Expenditures of the Old Church Hall, garage and adjacent Parking lot

1. Boiler System (currently shut down)
2. Roof & Chimney Exhaust repair
3. Window Replacement
4. Parking Lot milled & Paved
5. Abatement of floor tiles in basement

- The Selling of the OCH (Old Church Hall) 169 & 171 Lake Avenue

In Summary: With the anticipated Capital Expenditures facing St. Leo's Parish, it was recommended to Fr. Joe and the Finance Council to sell the OCH and adjacent property. (Map can be found on the Parish web-site.) The Finance Council was in agreement with the recommendation. Since then, Fr Joe and Tim Thomas have been working with DOR to move forward with preparing the property for sale. The North driveway (current exit) will remain and be widened. A New entrance/exit will be off Hojack Lane (work underway, thanks to our very hard working stewards.) The Shrine is currently included in the area being put up for sale. It is being suggested the purchaser keep the shrine, if this is not possible, it will be moved or replaced to a more visible part of the property. There has been much interest in the property, 2 developers, a local church and the Parma Public Library.

Currently 2 proposals for appraisals and an updated site/plan – survey are being reviewed. After the site survey has been up-dated an application will be submitted to the Village to merge 169 and 171 Lake Avenue.

Topic #2: Pastoral Planning; Fr. Joseph Catanise

In Summary: The Parish Pastoral Committee, Finance Committee, Stewardship Committee and Staff have been reading and reviewing the book, *Divine Renovation* by Fr. James Mallon. The committees will be meeting as a group to develop a 5 year Pastoral Plan for the spiritual growth of St. Leo's. It is imperative as a church community that we continue in our own spiritual growth as well as invite others to join us if we as a parish is to thrive. The consolidation of parishes has been completed in the Elmira area and is currently happening in the Horsehead- Painted Post area. It is anticipated that the next consolidation will take place in the City of Rochester. St Leo's needs to be thriving spiritually and financially sound.

Topic # 3: Parish Deficit; Steve Carges, Finance Council Chairperson

In Summary: The Parish is facing approximately a \$30,000 deficit. When budgeting, revenues are variable. Fundraising that was budgeted, did not happen. Memorial donations, Gifts and Donations are lower than budgeted, as well as Easter and Christmas

collections. Expenses are \$7,000 over budget. The Finance Council met with Staff and there has been austerity spending since February.

Currently Finance Council is working on the Budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year and will be proactive and informative. Parish Pastoral Council has been reviewing a major fundraiser that would be community wide.

In conclusion, the floor was open for questions and answers. A few statements of concern were made regarding the Selling/moving of the Shrine. Also, in the support of the STT Ministry in all of its wonderful works in the community & the dedications of its stewards and their sadness of it closing. Another statement was In support of the parish being proactive. Also that we leave our hurt and sadness at the feet of Jesus.

Q&A (summarized)

Q *How much is the Church expecting to make on the sale of the OCH?*

A Land appraisals are not done yet, however the interest in the property, it is expected to be able to Cover anticipated capital expenditures.

Q *Has it been considered who we sell to (we wouldn't want a Taco Bell)?*

A St Leo's would like to sell to what best fits the parishes needs as well as enhance the community

Q *Is the church that is interested, a Catholic church?*

A No

Q *Who makes the decision in the sale of the property?*

A The pastor in consultation with PPC and Finance Committee and the DOR

Q *Does the DOR get a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the property?*

A NO. The DOR will require proceeds (Stable Patrimony) to be invested in the Investment Fund, that the parish has access to for capital expenditures.

Q *With the new Entrance/Exit off Hojack Lane, does the Parish have to keep the Lake Ave exit?*

A Yes, the DOR would like it to remain as well as St Leo's.

Q. *Will the parishioners be surveyed on whether the property is sold to the Library or a Developer?*

A Fr Joe, Pastor with consultation with the Parish Pastoral Council & Finance Council will be making the decision and will advise if a survey is needed.

Q. *Will there be room for physical growth in the future?*

A Yes.

Q. *How old in the church's roof and how must to replace?*

A The 2nd layer was installed in 2003. There are a few options being looked at, full replacement or removing sky light (were the trouble is thought to exist) and roofing that area only.

Q. *What is St Leo's doing differently than other churches in our area to remain?*

A. What are you doing as a parishioner? It is important that all parishioners be part of a group, parish planning, fundraising, ministries. We are very welcoming parish, we need to invite others to join us. We need to be positive, open to change and prayerful.

There is a box in the Parish Life Center to add your questions. Thank you !