

St. John the Baptist Church

Report to Commissions Mark Dittman, Parish Business Administrator

April 17, 2018

1. **Cemetery Infant Section Monument.** In addition to reviewing its structure, the Cemetery Committee is considering the possibility of purchasing and installing a monument to designate the infant burial section of our cemetery, which is in the northwest section. Design, material and cost options are being reviewed now, for a possible late summer installation.
2. **Director of Stewardship & Development.** The date of this report marks the second day on the job for Mr. Bret Sutton, who is our new Director of Stewardship & Development. Bret is an experienced stewardship and development professional who has worked in both church and school settings. In his most recent positions he served at Ave Maria Academy, Transfiguration in Oakdale, and St. Agnes in St. Paul. Bret is eager to learn all about our church and school and help us meet our fundraising objectives in service to our mission. The parish has committed to funding the position for up to two years out of parish operating reserves.
3. **OSMG Sunday Giving Drive.** No, this isn't happening yet! But, a subcommittee of the Evangelization & Stewardship Commission has stepped forward to work with me, and eventually Bret, to plan the various components of this campaign, which will happen this fall. I am grateful to these members of the E&S Commission for their assistance in this effort.
4. **Parish Census.** Please return your census form if you have not already. Our parish database needs to be as accurate as possible in order to best serve our parishioners (you!).
5. **Budget 2018/19.** The Finance Commission is planning to recommend approval of a final budget at tonight's meeting. This year a school subcommittee worked extensively with our Principal Ann Laird to develop the school budget, and the Leadership Team reviewed and made substantive recommendations to Father Skluzacek on the church side of the budget.
6. **Spring Formation Day 2018:** Thursday, May 24, 2018. "Growing a Church of Unity and Diversity." Featuring: Chris Lowney and Sister Theresa Rickard. Pax Christi Church, Eden Prairie, 9:30 am-3:00 pm. Go to <http://www.archspm.org/formationday> for more information. Cost is \$25; the parish is willing to sponsor interested commission members or parishioners. Contact Mark Dittman if you wish to attend.
7. **FallFest 2018: September 28, 29 & 30.** The FallFest Committee met for the first time on April 10. Lots of good things are in store for this year's festival! We are in need of an overall co-chair and volunteer leaders in the following areas: setup/take down, onsite maintenance (wipe tables, sweep, etc.), onsite running, food vendors, bar games, car show and other areas. Volunteers in these areas would not have to come to each planning meeting. Contact Mark Dittman or Teri Shea in the parish office for more information.
8. **Insights Discovery.** Recently the church staff completed an online assessment of communication and work styles, with the intention of better understanding themselves and their coworkers. We spent a day onsite with a consultant (Margaret Smith of UXL, <https://www.youexcelnow.com/>) who taught us the various components of this system, and will work with us to follow up as we learn to more effectively build a healthy workplace culture at St. John's, all in service of our parish mission. For a video summary of the Insights model, go here: <https://insights.wistia.com/medias/84ajdjmi6>.

Thank you for your service to St. John the Baptist!

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