

**MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH  
PARISHIONER MEETING  
MONDAY – NOVEMBER 5, 2018  
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

**Notes**

**See presentation slides.**

**Questions and Comments from parishioners**

- Concerned about HF school and current building merger possibilities. Concerned about safety, neighborhood, playground. Parents want school to move to safer neighborhood, maybe move to St Casimir's where Faith Formation is located. Father Scott advised no plans to move anything and no issues of children having incidents. Relocating to St. Casimir's would be a problem because there is not enough classroom space for the student enrollment.
- There are problems in many areas of Elmira; Coburn School, 2 blocks away, had a problem with a dead person found in a dumpster, Beecher and Diven Schools are in neighborhoods facing concerns, Wegman's just had a shooting incident. The church has a good relationship with the Elmira Police Department, There are security cameras and alarms on the buildings; staff and parents do a good job securing the safety of the students.
- **Are we moving toward one church; if so, what one?** Father Scott – no plans to move to one or two churches.
- Talked about a church on Maple Avenue and the expenses not higher than when one or two are in use
- **Any thoughts about changing winter Masses to use fewer churches to save on costs?** Father Scott advised this has been talked about but no decision was made.
- Has any study been done to show how much it costs to open a church for Mass? (*Example: This is what it costs to keep the building open? Cost \$6,000 and Income: \$3,000*) If we want the parish to survive we have to pay more or get more people.
- Not about money, it is about the people
- Interfaith Chapel at Arnot Medical--on forms people check religious and church affiliation; lots of people say they are Catholic, but don't go to church because they watch Mass on TV. Many don't have transportation to Mass, need a sense of community; maybe have two 4:00 pm Masses at two different churches. Father Scott – can't do two Masses at same time with two priests and one might not be available.
- If there are people who can't get to church, how about a ministry to give people a ride? Some churches have lots of volunteers to pick up people. Father Scott advised that could be done among parishioners.
- Tired of squeezing name of Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish on my checks.
- **Could we have a directory so we learn more people's names?** Would be possible.
- Concerned about St. Casimir's, if closed for repairs would people go to St. Charles? Father Scott advised that would be considered.
- There are a lot of moral issues, people have left the church; when we go through the worse financial situation we should pray and ask what do we do to keep open. Pray for open hearts, things can get

repaired, get people actively engaged in church; answer to all of this is prayer; the principal purpose of evangelization - Make Disciples of All Nations; prayer is the most powerful weapon.

- **Anything about St Casimir's Church?** Fix it or let it go. David Quinn advised that it has been looked at. The problem is the boom lift is expensive so we are trying to bundle several uses for it. It's on the docket; will get done before winter. Father Scott shared that the Adoration Chapel will be moving to the convent.

One person talked about the Divine Mercy holy card she brought to a friend who was ill even though that friend was not religious. That holy card was on display, no matter where her friend relocated.

Asked about the roof at St. Casimir's because the roof should have a one hundred year guarantee on it; if work is done on roof it should be work covered by guarantee; make sure guarantee is honored.