

**Church of the Resurrection  
Finance Council Meeting  
Monday, April 7, 2013**

In attendance: Father Mark Hobson, Nick Babic, Dennis Bodziony, Nancy Brown, Dave Consolo, William Hawke, Chuck Maimbourg, John Shovary, Janice Zeller.

Absent: Norm Perney, Bob Sorin, Herb Wilson

Guests: Paula Aveni, Patrick Grace, Catholic Community Foundation.

- 1) The meeting opened at 7 PM with a prayer by Fr. Mark.
- 2) Dennis introduced our guests, Paula Aveni and Patrick Grace, representatives from the Diocesan Catholic Community Foundation. This agency had been founded in the year 2000 by Bishop Pilla and managed the Rooted in Faith campaign within the Diocese. It also manages the Catholic Charities campaigns and offers fund raising and endowment assistance to parishes and schools.
- 3) Since many parishes have concerns about their offertory collections, around November 2013 the Foundation developed a pilot program, Grateful Giving, as an offertory collection enhancement vehicle. Eight pilot parishes have begun the seven-week program and have noticed about a 14% increase in weekly collections. They will try to bring about 15 to 20 parishes into this program during 2014, with three beginning immediately after Easter. While dealing with only offertory collections (not, for example maintenance and repair, social justice, etc.), they estimate their cost for assistance to a parish is about 30 to 40 percent less than a third party vendor.
- 4) Data presented for the 2010 to 2013 period shows:

<u>Parishes</u>	<u>Inc/Decr</u>	<u>Amount</u>
5	decrease	15 to 28%
10	decrease	10 to 14%
19	decrease	5 to 9%
34	decrease	0.03 to 4%
40	increase	4 to 5%
35	increase	5 to 15%
16	increase	16 to 38%

Thus, 108 parishes have shown a decrease or an increase of less than 5% in this time period. Resurrection's offertory collection during the same period also decreased about 14%. However, Dennis noted that when our Debt Reduction, Social Justice, Maintenance & Repair and other giving categories are added in, our reduction is about 11%.

Bill asked if there was comparable data for non-Catholic churches. Patrick replied that from data which reveals that participation in most organized religions is declining, one could also surmise that collections would also be declining.

- 5) The approximate cost for a program using Catholic Community Foundation management and techniques would be \$7.50 per household and a program about every three years was recommended. Chuck asked if there was any data available for the expected increase from the groups in a parish making up the non-contributors and the low contributors. Patrick estimated that the increase in contributions from the non-contributors pays for the project.
- 6) A legacy-giving program is also available from the Foundation. Twelve parishes are currently piloting an on-line legacy-giving program on their web sites. St. Monica launched the program in the last week with two more parishes expected to launch in April. Most parishioners are not aware that legacy giving is possible/feasible. The target age for this program is 50 to 70.
- 7) Fr. Mark suggested adding both items: increased offertory collections and legacy giving, to the June Finance Council agenda and both guests left the meeting.

- 8) Item 3 on our agenda was current maintenance needs as reported by the Building and Grounds Commission of about \$35,000 for front yard curbing and asphalt repair. Estimates were \$20,000 for new curbing and \$15,000 for asphalt. Bill motioned to approve the repair project at an estimated cost of \$35,000, seconded by Dave and the motion carried.
- 9) Future repairs anticipated by Building and Grounds include:
  - The 10-year old side parking lots will need major repair soon due to drainage conditions.
  - The masonry façade on the old, original church building is crumbling and will need repair.
  - The roof on the original church building is now 20 years old and will need repair in the next two years – roughly estimated at \$120,000.
  - The heating/air conditioning system in the old building is nearing end of life.
  - These items could total up to \$300,000 and funding needs to be determined.
- 10) Per the Progress Report reviewed during the meeting \$108,900 funding was available even with planned monthly payments of \$30,000 on the mortgage.
- 11) Review of the results of the Rooted in Faith campaign shows a total of \$1,570,500 pledged with about 51% paid to date. Assuming a final collection rate of 85% of the pledges would result in a cash benefit of about \$381,000 to Resurrection.
- 12) Nancy provided an update on the electronic payment system recently established. There were about four parishioners who began using the system in March. About 116 parishioners are enrolled in the ACH program.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

**Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 9, 2014 at 7 PM.**