

On July 30th St. Cecilia Pastoral Council hosted their second Townhall Meeting . This meeting was held in conjunction with the Summer Backyard BBQ.

PASTORAL COUNCIL TOWNHALL MEETING

Fr. Bao called the Townhall Meeting to order at 7:00 with prayer.

Deacon Bill Weeks served as moderator for the evening. He explained the question process and asked panelists to introduce themselves, the following individuals participated:

Father Bao
Father Nicholas
Conor Martin – Confirmation/Faith Form.
Robert Loera – Parish Safety
Julian Cangelosi – Finance Committee
Deacon Dong Ngo

Mary Alvarado – Principal St. Cecilia Sch.
Aric Gless – Architect new building project
Bill and Sandie Guard - Capital Campaign
Scott Cwiertny – Capital Campaign
Mike Zinn – President Pastoral Council

Questions:

- **What impact will the upcoming construction have on the rest of the plant and its operations?**

Discussions will take place with the construction company and contractor as to where the materials and equipment will be held.

Minimal construction effects will have minimal effects on the mass. Discussions will take place as to how to minimize the effects on the school and Mass exiting. Of course, discussions are also taking place with the Diocese as well. Our utmost priority is safety.

- **Please give a broad view of the project dates and an update on the financial campaign?**

Projected dates:

November 27, 2019: (Feast of St. Cecilia), 6pm Mass with Bishop – blessing of the ground followed by a dinner.

Second week of January construction will begin. Construction will take about ten months.

November 22, 2020: Dedication of the building

Currently there is \$2,600,000 in bank

One house property is in escrow, the other house is being renovated first and will be sold after. Both properties should sell for over \$700,000 each.

The Diocese asks us to put up 75% of project total before construction begins, (four million 800 thousand).

- **What will happen to the Kuper Center with the selling of the property?**

The family that purchase the house with the Kuper Center has agreed to allow us to utilize the Center until the new building is complete. Once construction is finished the Center will then become part of their home.

- **Why doesn't our school schedule align with Catholic High Schools and Tustin High School?**

Our school is an elementary school not an upper educational institute. Some of the reasons for the schedule differences are:

AP courses are driving the high school schedules as well as the start dates of colleges.

Starting the school year early caused school events to clash with parish events.

Also, the air conditioning costs during the months of August and September are significant. Starting classes later eases this burden.

Lastly, our Diocesan Priests are on retreat the first week of June and therefore not available for graduation.

- **What are the plans for the sound system in church?**

Sound system: Repair of our sound system, painting and repair of pew kneelers all need to be done and will be taking place shortly.

Screens: The screens in the Church have been replaced, we waited for a special sale to purchase them. Their installation will begin after a short study on them takes place.

All these renovations are taking place because of your generosity

- **Can we go back to the Music Issues, words often incorrect or not available, not having the music makes it hard to sing newer songs?**

We purchased the projectors to eliminate this repetitive cost. We understand that many times not having the music makes singing difficult, but music cannot be printed without the copyright. Also, often when the music is projected it is too small to be seen.

We encourage you to purchase a Music Issue from the company and can provide you with the information to do so.

- **Why are their limited adult education programs here at St. Cecilia?**

Currently we do not have the facilities to accommodate these programs. However, Father Eric willing to teach Faith Formation on Wednesday mornings in the St. Cecilia School Library. (Wednesday are late start days for our school) He will also teach on Tuesday evening in the Kuper Center in Spanish.

We will revisit this topic, (Adult Education), when our building is completed.

There will be several seasonal offerings this fall. In October, we will have two nights on the Rosary and the message of Fatima. We are also working on a small faith community program which will begin around Advent of this year.

More information on these activities will be forthcoming.

- **Does the parish have a Safety Program in place?**

A Safety Committee formed from members of the Pastoral Council and they have been meeting for over a year. There are many different facets of this topic that must be looked at, study and solved. The Committee has been working with the Diocese and the Tustin PD, who have helped us greatly. They have been working on procedures, identifying evacuation routes, the location of fire extinguishers, how information is disseminated, etc. All this information is being gathered into a Safety Manual. It is currently in process and after final review and revisions it will be published. We are one of the few parishes around that have begun to deal with this issue and is consider very important with the construction of our new building.

- **How can Eucharistic Ministers give Communion even though not ordained?**

Ordinary Ministers of Communion are ordained priests. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are ordinary practicing Catholic members of the congregation who have been trained to act as Eucharistic Ministers. Realistically, none of us are worth to distribute the Body and Blood of our Lord since we are all sinners, but the Church gives us permission.

With the number of attendees at Mass the Eucharistic Minister program was created. EMS help speed up the distribution of Holy Communion keeping the celebration flowing.

Ministers are trained in the correct procedure and must be delegated every two years. They grow in grace through their service to others and to the Church.

We are always looking for more if anyone is interested!

- **Is it possible to combine the 6:30 and 7:30 masses into one mass at seven?**

It is possible, but when should this take place? There is often more attendance at the 6:30 Mass than at the 7:30 Mass. Collections are counted per the individual Mass. The collection at 6:30 is greater than at the 7:30. Perhaps they may be combined in future but now is not the time. We will leave it to the Lord to decide.

- **Can funeral dates be published in the bulleting and/or on the web site?**

Yes, we will begin publishing funeral dates in the bulletin and putting them on the web site.

- **Why do we no longer have vigil Masses for Holy Days of Obligation?**

Attendance at vigil Masses was consistently very low, so it was decided to stop offering them. An early evening English Mass is offered for each Holy Day of Obligation.

- **Are there plans to upgrade the Hall?**

Yes, there are plans to upgrade the Hall. This is being planned for “phase three” of the plant renovations. This phase will include the upgrading the hall, the kitchen and the hall technology. Expanding the bathrooms and creating rooms upstairs for the youth programs.

- **Deacon Bill was not sure of next questions regarding the school activity calendar.**

The St. Cecilia School activity calendar can be offered on the website and in the Church Bulletin if this is what the question referred to. Not sure of the need being asked.

- **Please go over the next steps regarding the new building project.**

Eric Gless, the architect for the new building, went over the next steps in the construction of our new building. These steps include:

- Starting construction drawings which are different from design drawings. Once done these are done, they will be submitted to the city for approval and permits.
- These drawing will then be given to multiple contractors for their bids and a contractor will be selected.
- Construction will then begin.

- **There is limited air conditioning in Church, especially in the choir loft. Can this be improved?**

Yes, this will be investigated.

- **Are the entrance bricks still available for purchase?**

Yes, but we need a minimum of ten people to place the order, we currently have seven. The cost is \$100.00 per brick. If you are interested in purchasing a block, please see the front office.

Mike Zinn thanked everyone for coming. We would like to make this a yearly event. He closed the meeting at 8:05.

Father Bao closed in prayer.