

TOWN HALL III

St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church

Volume 1, Issue 1

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Tom Bruneau has fun with the parish photographer at our Summer Festival.

Fifty-five St. Therese parishioners listened attentively during two sessions of the third Town Hall meeting as Father Mike answered questions and responded to comments about parish finances and our lives as a faith community. This first parish newsletter includes Father's answers and comments to some of the questions.

How Are We Doing With The Campaign?

Faith in Our Future is in its second year with \$157,871. collected so far. After 40% was returned back to the archdiocese, St. Therese Parish netted \$94,722. representing 211 of the 790 registered households, or 26.7% of our parish.

Of the \$94,722. netted amount, \$31,197.52 was used as our share to fund the opening and continuation of the newly consolidated Mt. Carmel/St. Therese Elementary School. Thanks to the talented and skilled efforts of our "Over-the-Hill-Gang," the cost of our

handicapped lift came in at \$29,285.32, \$5,000 under budget.



So far, our debt to the archdiocese has not been decreased. None of our campaign monies has been used to pay off the \$80,000 owed.

"As pastor, I have nothing but gratitude," commented Father Mike recently, "for the dedication of our parishioners. St. Therese

Parish is in good hands, with volunteers like the 'Over-the-Hill Gang', the workers at the Festival, the campaign team leaders, the many, many good people who see a need and come to help our parish. They have a sense of Stewardship that goes beyond Treasure to focus on contributing their Time and Talent, too."

Any parishioner who has not received information or a statement from the archdiocese regarding Faith in Our Future should contact Michelle Nabih at 1-414-769-3221.

Summer Festival Update!

Our Parish Summer Festival brought out hungry, eager crowds on a cool weekend and that proved perfect for the St. Therese coffers. In round numbers, a gross figure of about \$106,019.21 netted \$43,943.69 after expenses were paid.

A follow-up meeting was not held but a list of how to improve next year's festival was created and will be included in the planning for July 16-18, 2010. If you have any comments to make about the festival, talk to a Parish Council member.

St. Therese Parishioners Want To Know

Do the monies raised by fundraisers stay in the parish?

Yes, they do.

Do we still subsidize students to St. Joe's?

No, that ended

Seniors and Handicapped Needs Explored

Questions:

How can we get more people interested in developing a social and spiritual group?

We need more handicapped parking spaces especially for the Saturday 4 o'clock Mass.

"I support any effort to develop a senior social and spiritual group," Father Mike commented. "But volunteers are needed to help organize events for these parishioners and I am hopeful that senior will get together and plan some activities this year."

Last fall, Fr. Mike hosted a group of seniors for a question and answer hour on a variety of spiritual topics. During Lent, he spoke one Tuesday afternoon after his hour of silent prayer about the Sacrament of Reconciliation and how seniors can prepare for a good confession.

Homebound Ministry has funded these initial senior events.



The "Over-the-Hill-Gang" will look into adding more handicapped parking spaces in our church lot and provide a sign to direct parishioners and visitors to our lift.

Advertising of all parish events will now include information that the St. Therese Church and Hall are handicapped accessible. Perhaps, soon a uni-sex handicapped restroom can be added.



Father Mike responds to questions at the Senior "Meet and Greet" last fall.

"St. Therese Parish is in good hands with volunteers. . . whose sense of Stewardship goes beyond Treasure to focus on contributing their Time and Talent, too." Fr. Mike

Heh? What Did You Say, Father?

Can the speaker system get fixed in the crying room and the one that crackles in the church? Neither works consistently.

Our church has a one-line system, which means that only one microphone can be turned on and used at a time. If both Father's and the musician's microphone are on, the result is static or inconsistent sound. Dick Stader, a volunteer in our "Over -

the-Hill-Gang," will look into the problem to see if it can be solved.

Why was our parish sign over the church taken down?

The sign read "St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church and School." In order to accommodate the new school's name, "Mount Carmel/St. Therese Elementary School," the sign was removed and a banner hung in its place.

Consideration is being given to a new name for the school. A contest may be held among the students to select a name. Then a new sign will be installed.

St. Therese Church is still clearly identified with two signs - one on the corner of 22nd Avenue and 91st Street and the other at the entrance to the 91st Street driveway.

I can't attend the Town Hall meeting. Will the answers to the questions be printed in the bulletin? (5 requests)

Here are some of the questions and answers.
Tell us what you think.

Father Mike



Fall at St. Therese!