

From the Chairman of the Parish Pastoral Council

By Frank Marcello

First, I'd like to say "thank you" to all those who have served on the Parish Council but had to resign because of time restrictions or personal reasons.

Second, I'd like to thank all of those who have continued to serve on the Council for their commitment and dedication to Notre Dame Church.

Third, I'd like to thank all those who have stepped up to the plate and accepted the responsibility for the positions that have become available on the Council. Win or lose, thank you for at least taking the time to try and get involved in our Church operations.

Every Sunday I see the same people coming to church regardless of the weather conditions. It seems they are very dedicated in putting at least one hour a week to celebrate Mass. How nice it would be if those same people would volunteer one hour a month in helping to maintain our church grounds. It's so easy to pick a small project of some kind like planting flowers, trimming bushes, cleaning up the area or any kind of general maintenance to help beautify our church property. There are no restrictions on time; you can do it in the morning, afternoon, or evening. Remember, there are three houses and our church building that constantly need some kind of maintenance. Those who are retired and would like to seriously help can always join the Tuesday morning crew who has done a marvelous job in renovating or taking care of the bigger projects.

In closing, I would like to thank Fr. John for his spiritual leadership and guidance at our Parish Pastoral Council meetings.

Parish Cleaning Committee

By Barbara Violette

Thank you to all the men and women who donated their time and talents with the general cleaning of the church for Easter on March 13. Tasks included shampooing rugs, washing the pews and floors, cleaning under the pews, washing windows, vacuuming, and dusting. Without their help, it wouldn't have been possible to get all this done in one day. Also thank you to the women who clean the church every week. To assist, contact me at 639-0090.

Tuesday Morning Work Crew

By Jack Siersma

Work has been progressing on our major project "renovation and rebuilding" at the former Resource Center. The Center has become the Notre Dame parish office building. The work crew has been converting the former garage area into a combination classroom / meeting room. The project has been in the works since last fall with completion expected shortly.

Volunteer participation has fallen off somewhat on this project; but we have been fortunate to have continued support from Bob DeRuvo, John Flanagan, and Tom Janaskie. A number of other volunteers have helped as their schedules have permitted. Scott Fisher, Joe Giordano, Bill Hembrook, Jim Thompson, and Greg English have all pitched in with valuable assistance when they could find the time.

The project has taken more time than initially expected due to a number of issues that required correction in the 50+ year old structure. The major consequence of these delays has been our inability to move on to other needed tasks. We hope, with help, we will be able to do that very soon.

Building Committee Activity

By Bud Noe

At the March meeting, we reviewed input received from our discussions with parishioners at the Soup Supper and after the Masses the last week of February. Next, Father John and I met with the Parish Finance Committee after getting a second quote from a local architectural firm and reviewing our plan drawing with the Greeneville Building Inspector.

After discussion with the Parish Finance Committee, we received their backing to contact Johnson Architecture of Knoxville to have them quote the Schematic Design Phase and the Design Development Phase of our program. I contacted them in early April. When the quote is sent to Notre Dame, we will go to the Diocese of Knoxville office to discuss our plans, which include meeting with builders to get better-defined costs for the project. If all is approved, we should be able to do this in or about the June time frame.