

Question 8: Comments about what we could do to enhance the financial future of the parishes:

What they do well:

There has been a lot more financial transparency than any years past.

lead conservative lifestyle

Explain financial needs of the parish

cooperate with each other

Publishing of Budgets

We now have financial transparency which no previous pastor really did.

Weekly updates on giving.

Fundraisers

Easy to give. Online giving makes it easy to not forget your envelope.

We are very generous and have always stepped up to the plate whenever something has come up. We don't think in terms of financial planning; we believe in following the gospel message to trust in God because today has enough problems of its own.

The weekly \$ financial update in the bulletin is a good step. Persons increasingly will not give until they know their voice is heard and that the church is the top priority.

I don't know the parishes finances, I thought we were broke.

Starting to create a plan is good.

remind to give, offer different ways to give, pray together about giving, and clearly provide monthly summary of shortfall

Online giving

Economy and no jobs is problem

Have some bake sales

Use of Amazon, reminders in bulletin

The altar society and parish council work very hard

Great homilies, enjoy small intimate Mass & environment

informing members of weekly numbers; transparency about finances.

Not really aware of financial issues

Church dinners

All

not sure you can if people don't give

People should spend less time making excuses and talking about how poor they/we are and embrace the call to sacrificially give.

New speaker system

More Fundraisers

Respond to the needs and opinions in an understanding manner

be transparent with all transactions, improvements, etc

Combine the two parishes to cut overhead and focus on one church location nearest the closest, largest population and potential for growth.

Make improvements to the one church structure so it more usable and welcoming to potential new parishioners.

More discussions....Talks from the pilpit

I'm not sure exactly, I think this will hopefully help us actually plan for the future rather than shooting from the hip so to speak.

We must face the reality that we have a small congregation that is not growing sufficiently to meet the needs of an aging infrastructure. The generosity of parishioners should be respected by prioritizing the needs of the church higher than improving the rectory. Without a church, there is no need for a rectory. We must have a safe and inviting place of worship, then we need a safe and secure rectory.

Be better stewards of their time & talents when it comes to improvements being made to the parishes & rectory.

We might be able to do better on a weekly basis, but the reasons people have stopped donating is because they don't trust our pastor to make good economic decisions.

Question 8: Comments about what we could do to enhance the financial future of the parishes:

Strategic Planning was suggested by many persons over several years. No action was taken. The leadership did not take the needed action steps in recent years. The Parishes are now in a quandry. Pausing and/or stopping the full-blown rectory renovation is necessary otherwise this forces other financial situations (ie., no \$ to address the structural needs of the churches). This Strategic Planning Process is missing a key audience--the persons particularly those whom most recently left the parishes and/or are attending mass in Lincoln and other sites.

plan ahead more and people give more appropriately I think its shameful how little people give and the excuses I've heard for not giving

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honestly I would say we probably need to consider merging parishes.

remind to give, offer different ways to give, pray together about giving, and clearly provide monthly summary of shortfall

Not sure (2)

Merge or join a bigger one

Have fundraisers (2)

Don't constantly preach about \$

Less spending or more approval from the whole

Fun night for kids/grandkids, adult night - dinner & drinks

Community Service

Have fundraisers, etc.

More money put away

Long term planning

Merge the parishes

Whatever program that will actually communicate to people they are more blessed and can actually give a proper tithe. Right now many people just talk about how poor we are and yet live very comfortably themselves.

Have fundraisers and reach out to former parishioners and their families

fundraisers, community involvement, involve Knights of Columbus more

Combine parishes with joint programs and facilities to increase participation and attract new parishioners.

Full Parish Meetings to discuss Finances

Not sure (2)

We can no longer keep asking for MORE from parishioners. We need to explore fund raising from outside sources.

Campaigns for improvements.

People need to be listened to when it comes to expenditures.

No new programs until we re-est. our priorities and determine why the contributions have declined precipitously, why so many persons have left the parish within the past year or more, and determine the decline in overall involvement by parishioners. Dig into the data and meet in small groups. A low return rate of this survey is not workable.

I don't know much about financial matters, but I do feel that if the spiritual needs and health of the parish were better the money would take care of itself.

Not sure

Adult classes or scriptures. We've had several of our members (very active) move out of area due to health. Find ways to increase our numbers & reach out into area.

Put less on the plate, stretch it out.

Endowment

Funds to renovate the rectory