

Apr. 7, 2019

Thoughts from the pastor,

With the excitement of the 1st Communions last weekend I forgot, at some of the Masses, to make the big announcement about the new pastor to be. Fr. Ryan Lewis will become pastor on July 1st. He will just have celebrated his 20th ordination anniversary. He has been chaplain at Gross High School the past few years and before that was actually pastor at St. Thomas More Parish where I will be going. I'm sure when he gets here he will give you much more information on himself.

This brings up an important point for the coming years of the parish. As usual we have four members of the Parish Council finishing their three year term and one Total Board of Education member needing to be replaced. Fr. Lewis will need good people to help him in his first years here at SEAS. Being on these advisory boards can be your way of helping out. Please consider this possible way of serving your parish. The TBOE works to oversee the workings of SJS School, the PRE program, and the adult education for the parish. They meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7pm. The Parish Council meets at 7:30pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month and oversees the many different aspects of SEAS Parish. If you are interested please contact the parish office or one of the members of these boards. Cameron Gales, Ann & Larry Reynek, Lenal Bottoms, Tom and Ann Fryda, Shelly Gray, Michael Howick, Eric Keisling, Agatha Poteat, Cora Thelen, Heather Vyff, or the president Randy Bergstrom.

I have been talking with the Finance Committee, the Parish Council, and Fr. Lewis about the maintenance projects we have going. One major one that has been going on for a couple years is the roof. The metal sloped roof is done and looking great. The flat roof over the parish hall is basically finished but still has a couple touches to be done. This leaves the skylights and the flat part of the roof over the church. The first is going to be covered by insurance. The flat roof is not. The cost of that is \$85,000. We do have that in savings partly thanks to what came from the HOPE program, which should cover half of this cost. Fr. Lewis would really like it if he didn't have to work on this. I agree with him because it would be hard to step into it at this time. I did receive permission from the Archdiocese to go ahead. That flat roof over the church project should start within a few weeks. The skylight project is still waiting on getting the replacements manufactured. We keep hearing that it is close. It would be thrilling if it would all be finished by July 1st and Fr. Lewis could step into this church without those worries hanging right over his head. (*Pun intended*)

If you have not seen the movie **Unplanned**, do so if at all possible. It is very well done. It is Abby Johnson's story of having been the manager of a Planned Parenthood clinic to being prolife. You have to decide, but I believe it is okay for 13 and up. There are several web-sites that can be a follow-up for those who might need further information. AbortionForgiveness.com is a healing source for anyone who has had an abortion. 10StepsToEndAbortion.com is helpful if you want to get involved in ending abortion. And for all else www.PriestsForLife.org, and they also have more on the movie.

This weekend we have Rachel Kauffold here to give us some information on FOCUS ministries.

God bless you,
Fr. Frank