

St. Patrick Parish / St. Michael Mission

Monthly Report - Cochise Vicariate – 11SEP13

(View this report online at: www.stpatsbisbee.com)

Religious Education

- Starting Religious Education Classes this Friday (Grades 1 – 7).
- Starting Sacramental Prep Classes this Sunday (1st Reconciliation, 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation).
- Will be inviting parents to stay and gather in rectory living room for adult faith formation class. (Instead of them sitting in the parking lot or driving home waiting to pickup their children).
- Still need a DRE.

Fundraising

- We are preparing for our Fall Festival (11/12OCT13).
- The Stair Climb will be renting our facilities (1718/19OCT13) again this year (\$1500 income for 3 days)
- Looks like Bingo will not be starting up in October after taking the summer off. (Community interest low, no money in the people's pockets. The folks are doing their best to just afford, housing, food, and medications, little left to "gamble".)
- Carne Asada is scheduled for 21SEP13 to offset 2014 Calendar expenses.

Collections

- St. Patrick year to date comparison (2012 to 2013):
Weekly: Down 16%
Repair: Down 31%
- St. Michael Mission year to date comparison (2012 to 2013):
Weekly: Down 20%
Repair: Down 68% (No surprise, most folks giving directly to renovation efforts)
- Have contacted Margie Puerta Edson, CFRE – Catholic Foundation, to visit us and speak about beginning a Stewardship program here at St. Patrick. We have got to do something to turn the tide or serious trouble with difficult decisions will be our future.

Groups and Clubs

- SVdP continues to serve 75 approx. people with food and clothing each Thursday. They are living the Gospel with great humility and effectiveness.
- Men's prayer group, though small in number, have started providing free burritos to all SVdP patrons/friends who come for dry-goods on Thursdays.
- K of C hosted a successful golf tournament. I am waiting to see if any proceeds will be shared with the parish. They may not be able to as they too struggle with income and expenses. We are all chasing the same dollar.
- Women's Club is strong and preparing for Christmas Craft Bazaar. They continue to host all funeral luncheons. What a blessing they are. Like the SVdP folks they bring the Gospel to life.

General

- Fr. Jandeh is away on vacation. Returns 10OCT13. I sent you a copy of priest/presider Mass assignments while he is away. All Masses are covered except at St. Michael Mission. I have scheduled Communion Services there for each Sunday. Dcn. Ricky Pinzon will cover and preside at most.
- Our BOD Annual meeting is scheduled 18SEP13. All paperwork has been sent out. Our PAFR has us once again ending the year in the "black". Is as you know, no easy task and becoming more difficult to obtain as the economic depression in Bisbee/Naco continues.
- Katherine Preble, Internal Auditor will be here 17SEP13 to audit our business operations. We have closed the parish office in order to give Katherine our full attention.
- I am most impressed with Pope Francis. I pray many are listening to him and being inspired by his lived example. We are in the "people" business. And the name of the person is Jesus Christ.
- Have contacted Dr. Rosemary Celaya-Alston to visit and speak about matters of Safe Environment. I will extend an invitation to all parishes in the vicariate once a date is set.

Facilities

- Upgrades and renovation at St. Patrick is complete for the most part. Still have some lighting concerns to address.
- The renovation at St. Michaels will probably be complete in the November time frame. We are shooting for October, but it looks like November. The people have raised all funds themselves (\$50,000.00

plus approx.) Bishop will be contacted and scheduled to bless once ready. He reviewed the progress during his pastoral visit.

Worries / Concerns

- Income and expenses especially with our collections being down.
- Our need to inspire our fallen away Catholics to return and live full, active, conscience, participation into parish life. If they did, oh what good could be shared with those we serve.