

Christ the King Church
Town Hall Meeting
October 25, 2016
Question and Answer session

DEMOGRAPHICS INFORMATION

Q: What's happening to the number of parish families?

A: We have around 1,920 families in our parish, with over 5,000 individuals. Parish families are continuing to increase but families with school age children are declining. More details on the parish demographics will be included in the annual report information in the bulletin.

Q: What is the median age of our parish? Could we see a 5-year trend?

A: We don't have that exact information tonight, but we do know that our parish is getting older, and specifically that there are fewer families with school age children. Please refer to the bulletin for this information as we share different parts of the annual report, and will post a collective file on the church website.

Q: You mentioned a priority this year is forming a committee to look at ministries for our elderly. How do you define elderly?

A: The parish council hasn't defined what age is considered "elderly". We are not trying to define elderly, but we do want to provide opportunities for our aging population. Our parish serves a large number of nursing homes, assisted living facilities, etc., and we have several parishioners who have no transportation to attend mass or participate in activities at the parish. We don't want anyone falling through the cracks, and we want to provide activities that they are interested in.

PARISH INFORMATION

Q: How many senior citizens are on the Parish Council (defined as 65 and over)?

A: There are currently 3 or 4 on the Parish Council.

Q: When are members being replaced?

A: The Council is currently looking at potential new members, with a broad mix from all age groups.

Q: Do you have terms limits for member?

A: Yes – our terms currently stagger for members for 2, 3, or 4 year terms. This is to position the council so that 1/3 will roll off each year. New terms are all 3 years, and an individual can serve two 3 year terms. We have the same staggering terms on the Finance Council.

Q: When did we restart the Parish and Finance Councils? We have always had them?

A: When Fr. Mitchel Zimmerman came in as Pastor, he increased the size and make-up of both councils, and the new terms were put into place.

Q: How many kids are currently involved in Religious Ed (RE)?

A: We currently have a part-time RE director with approximately 251 students, from 147 families, that attend on Wednesday evenings; which is currently down about 15 students. Fees this year are \$80 per student, with a family cap of \$180.

Q: Is there any musical representation here tonight? The organ often overpowers the cantors at the weekend masses. It was added it is also hard to hear the student cantors at the school Masses.

A: We don't have anyone here tonight responsible for the music, but thank you for bringing this to our attention. We will certainly pass the comments on to the appropriate people.

I'm glad that you mentioned the organ. Father, would you like to say a few words about the organ? Our organ is showing signs of age and is analog. An opportunity presented itself to purchase a used digital organ at a reasonable price; one-third the cost of a new one. Fr. Matthew discussed the opportunity with the Finance and Parish Councils, since this was not a budgeted item and we don't have \$20,000 in surplus funds. Thankfully, a parishioner called asking what specific needs we currently have at the parish, and graciously offered to purchase the organ! It was also noted that our sound system needs to be upgraded. Some initial drawings to improve the aging church, including pews, carpet, and new sound system, have been presented and Fr. Matthew will work through needs as he becomes more aware of the priorities here at Christ the King. A parishioner asked that we please consider the needs of the elderly and the disabled in the remodel as they do want to be involved in the liturgy.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Q: The endowment was not mentioned tonight. I believe that creative estate planning is critical to long-term survival of the church. The Lord asks us to give 10% - it shouldn't be any different with estates.

A: This item is on the radar screen for both the Financial Council and Fr. Matthew to address in the next couple of years. Fr. Matthew implemented a planned giving program at a previous parish and looks forward to putting one in place at CTK.

Q: Why are the maintenance and future needs funds not being posted in the weekly bulletin anymore?

A: We will be reporting maintenance funds (green envelope) and future needs funds (gold envelopes) in the bulletin quarterly.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Q: You stated it wouldn't cost more to absorb more children in classes. What size are the classes now?

A: We can have class sizes up to 29 per the Archdiocese, however, we want to keep them around 25. The current classroom average size is 19.

Q: How do our teachers' salaries compare currently to public school salaries?

A: Our teachers' salaries are significantly lower. Right now our teachers' salaries are at 75% to that of the public schools.

Q: How many teachers have a Master's Degree?

A: Twelve of our teachers have a Master's Degree. We have 36 total staff, of which 24 certified teachers.