

Pastor's Corner

Odds and Ends

There have been a number of exciting events and developments in our parish that I wish to share with you.

Golf Tournament. A shout out to Jason LeBeouf, Jeremy Starr and St. Francis Men's Club for sponsoring a successful Golf Tournament. More than 50 golfers participated. Everybody had a good time and we raised needed funds for our school. Thanks to all the volunteers, sponsors, donors and food/service providers.

Touch a Truck. If you heard the sound of honking truck horns in the school yard one recent Saturday, you weren't "hearing things." The Cub Scouts sponsored "Touch a Truck," an opportunity for kids of all ages to climb aboard and literally touch trucks, including a fire truck, an emergency truck, a SWAT truck, a variety of heavy equipment trucks, and antique cars and trucks. I had heard that there weren't a lot of children in Old Metairie. Not so: young children and their families were aplenty enjoying the trucks on display and the refreshments. Thanks to the Cub Scout parents and Scout Leader Dale Moore for making this a fun and educational event for young people.

CYO. We recently re-launched our CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) at the Junior level (grades 6-8) and the Senior level (grades 9-12) with a meeting and pizza party. Over 50 youth and 20 adults participated. We now have a CYO Calendar with at least one spiritual activity, one service activity and one social event per month for the coming year. The next major CYO event is World Youth Day at the New Orleans Convention Center on November 4, an event which annually attracts about 2,000 young people for prayer, faith formation and fellowship. Thanks to our Youth Minister, Abby Schlosser, and to Fr. Thien for getting this ministry rejuvenated. Help us spread the word our CYO is rolling again! See the parish website for more details.

Ushers. Father Thien and I have met with our usher captains and ushers to enhance this important church ministry. Ushers provide welcome, direction, assistance and security at Mass. We are grateful for the good work the ushers are performing for our parish.

Meet and Greet. Father Thien and I have completed 12 of 24 "Meet and Greet" gatherings. These gatherings continue to be a valuable time to meet parishioners on a personal basis and hear suggestions for the growth of our parish. Thank you, good people of St. Francis, for your ongoing hospitality.

God bless, Fr. Joe