

Sponsoring the Parish Festival

Putting on a parish festival is quite a task! We all know how much sweat and labor is involved. It also requires a great deal of money “up front” to put on the festival. Expenses are tremendous and quite numerous. This year, like everywhere else, prices have increased dramatically. While it is true that the return we get on most of the money put out is good, the fact of the matter is at the end, all the bills have to be paid before we can turn a profit. And so, I would like to inform you of just how much some of the expenses of the festival cost us, and to ask you to consider donating toward the many expenses of the festival. There is a special “festiva;” envelope in your monthly packet of envelopes, or you can just mark your offerinf festival. Here’s what we spent the last time we has a festival in 2019:

Newspaper advertising - \$1531

Printed materials

(not raffle tickets) - \$690

Tent rental - \$8435

Beer - \$25,607

Wine - \$3276

Portable toilettes - \$1750

Ice - \$1086

Games & prizes - \$3455

Pop - \$2688

Water - \$2500

Ice Cream - \$901

Polish Food - \$16,145

Bread - \$915

Renting tables & chairs - \$2305

Police protection - \$3301

The total price for this year’s live music will be: \$6850.00

All the other prices listed above were for 2019. You can be certain they have all gone up, especially food!

So What Will This Year’s Festival Look Like?

This is a question that is heard more and more as we get closer to the time of the festival. It’s been two years since we had a festival. It would be naïve to think that it’s just a matter of pulling everything out, setting it all up and going to it. Please keep in mind that the people who pull it all out and set it up are all two years older, and since they were already seniors when they did it last year, well.....some just can’t do this kind of work any more.

So, we adapt to the current times. I have already become aware of complaints from people that a smaller festival is a disappointment and just will not be the same. Interestingly, these complaints come from people who are not members of our parish, or from members who never work at the festival. It’s easy to complain when you are not part of the solution to the problem at hand. And this is the problem, less and less parishioners and volunteers. Some people who have helped in the past just don’t want to do it anymore. So we are adapting.

Four bands have been hired to provide live music. One will play on Friday night, and the

other three will play successively on Saturday. There will be a big tent for the music and dancing and outdoor dining. It will be bigger than in the past. There will be one large outside food booth, *aka* "chuckwagon." They will be selling the things that have always been sold there. Kiełbasa, hotdogs, French fries, gołąbki, pierogi, kapusta, potato pancakes and this year we will add pork chops to the outdoor menu.

There will be a beer wagon, selling draft beer, and bottled beer from Poland. Polish dancers will perform on Friday and Saturday. Of course there will be a booth selling our raffle tickets. There will also be hourly 50/50 raffles and rip off tickets. Inside the school building in the main hall there will be a huge basket raffle that was introduced a few years ago and was very successful. There will also be a fine bake sale going on in the hall and some form of ice cream available there.

Moving upstairs in the school, this is where we will locate childrens games in three of the classrooms there. The purpose of this is to reduce the enormous price of tents and to take advantage of space we already have. I have been informed that the fewer tents we will have this year will cost just as much as the greater number of tents that we have had in the past. With these prices we just cannot have a festival that we just break even at no matter how much fun and entertainment it provides the downriver area. Having kids games in school will require less time and work to set things up, because of course workers are hard to find. Anyway, since we are not having a candy tent we will try to have small children's concession stand upstairs in the school, next to their games with pop, chips, and a small selection of candy and perhaps cotton candy.

The festival will take place on Friday and Saturday only, giving people a chance to rest on Sunday, the Lord's Day. All of this depends on volunteers coming forward. Now is the time to plan on being a part of this parish event if we want it to continue on in the future.

If you are willing to work in the Food Booth please call Mike Genaw at: 734-771-4691.

If you are willing to work in the Children's Games area please call: Kim Cole at: 734-624-8522

If you are willing to work at ticket sales for food and beer please call Fred Snyder at: 734-925-2212

If you are willing to work at the bar please call Elizabeth Halo at: 313-828-2693

If you are willing to work on the Bake Sale please call MaryJo Harling at: 734-284-3740

If you are willing to help sell raffle tickets please call Stan Pasko at: 313-815-5230

**If you are willing to help with the set up and take down of the festival or with garbage removal during the festival, a very important but not attractive job!
Please call Al Adamski at: 734-341-5408**

If you have any other questions you would like answered please call the pastor at: 734-284-9135