

**Holy Redeemer Pastoral Council Minutes  
February 8, 2007**

**Present:** Claire Cheesman, Adam Dupuis, Tom Lavrisa, Sharron Quinn, Dave Roberts, Fr. Paul Shepherd, Anna Marie Young

**Absent:** Tom Dewar, Ray Fournier, Blair Malis

**Guest:** Fr. Oliver Rich

**Opening Prayer**

The meeting started with a prayer led by Fr. Paul, beginning with a reading from the Gospel of Luke recommending to not be anxious about material things, instead to be concerned with spiritual matters.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the Jan. 18 meeting were reviewed and adopted, subject to the two corrections received by email about the timing of the meetings of two Permanent Committees.

**Report of Ministries**

**Finance**

Fr. Paul reported that Barry Smith is preparing the budget for 2007 based upon actual 2006 spending and any new items this year. One such item is the Institute of Reconciliation, a diocesan initiative requiring the training of two volunteers, for a total cost of \$600.

**Liturgy**

The committee met two weeks ago, although attendance was down. The Christmas celebrations were well received, with the topic of parking control to be reviewed for next year. The issue of lack of ushers for the 7:00 p.m. Sunday Mass not resolved. The practice of having the members of parish ministries greeting those coming to church and handing out missals has not been implemented yet. Some organization of this activity is required, to determine a schedule of volunteers. Anna Marie will write an article for the bulletin requesting a volunteer to head up this activity. Meanwhile members are encouraged to greet those around them before Mass. A librarian has not come forward yet; Fr. Paul is working on getting two to share the duties, if possible. The reception for Fr. Jude went very well, with a long line of well wishers thanking him for his service with the parish. Fr. Jude will be working at St. Gertrude's in Oshawa until August, when he will return to Nigeria.

**Education**

Claire reported that there was no meeting this month. With the resignation of one of the leaders, the Landings ministry requires a replacement to be able to host the program this year. This will be discussed with the chair of the committee to come to a resolution. Fr. Paul stated that a new program of adult faith development named "Echoes of Faith" will be launched during Lent this year at our parish, as a pilot project. This will be a program based upon the Catechism of the Catholic Church, emphasizing Church traditions.

**Social Mission**

Dave Roberts explained that no meeting was held, thus there was nothing to report. Theresa Roberts stepped forward to chair this Permanent Committee, allowing Bernie Hartlin to step down.

**Parish and Community Life**

Sharron Quinn reported that a Coffee Sunday was being planned for the Feb. 25 weekend masses, organized by Mrs. Coombs and the Youth Groups.

**Youth Commission**

Tom Lavrisa reported that the Youth Commission met on Jan. 25 to further their goal of creating measurements for the effectiveness of youth ministry at the parish. A third measure was added, and that was the Quality of the experience. It was proposed that the youth leaders measure this when reviewing the

effectiveness of each meeting. Sign in sheets will be used for each meeting to keep track of the numbers attending and Mireille Church will survey the leaders of ministries to determine the participation of youth in church ministries. Melissa Delaney will be introduced at weekend masses as the person responsible for developing a program for youth at the parish. Mireille reported on the activities of the YES team to raise the visibility and provide funds to support Youth Ministry at the parish.

### **Youth Representative**

Adam Dupuis forwarded a request from the Knights of Columbus for the Youth Choir to perform at the upcoming Irish Night. Catherine Church wishes to publicize World Youth Day 2008, to be held in Australia, by placing a poster on the bulletin board. A request will go to Jan to find some space. A discussion followed on the planned Information Kiosk, which will be placed in the vestibule allowing expanded space for such notices.

### **Events Committee**

The committee received a request from the Knights of Columbus to start a breakfast to be held monthly, whose purpose would be to increase the opportunities for parishioners to get to know each other, as well as to raise funds for the Marian and Pro-Life chapels. The committee will consider the request and if approved, schedule it into the Parish Calendar.

### **Ministry Day Review**

Council discussed how to encourage small discussion groups to form and how to advertise them to others that may want to join. The Circle of Blessing praise and worship group will start with their events on Feb. 24. Music ministries are playing music before Masses, to provide a welcoming atmosphere to those coming to Mass. An information booklet will be created describing the ministries in the parish for newcomers, with the initial information to come from the Responsible Ministry database. A Welcome sign can be placed in the vestibule to let visitors know they are welcome.

### **Parish Web site**

Tom Lavrisa reported that many pages on the Web site have old information on them as no new postings have been received to replace them. The process of posting the bulletin also involves too many steps and should be simplified. A suggestion was made to capture bulletin items onto web pages, as we have many activities, but they are not advertised on the web other than in the bulletin posting. Tom will follow up with the Webmaster to see if this can be implemented.

### **Parish Social Mission Projects**

Anna Marie will contact Art Lamarche about collecting food for the Kanata Food Cupboard as a Lenten project. She will also contact Bernie Hartlin about an additional clothing drive for St. Vincent de Paul.

### **Policy and Procedures Committee**

Sharron Quinn reported that the committee met and is close to finalizing policies for hall rental including an application form, lease agreement and list of rules and regulations. Other policies are also being included covering service animals in church and practices at weekday Masses.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held March 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish boardroom.