

Holy Redeemer Parish Pastoral Council  
April 14th, 2010 Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Fr. Pierre Champoux -- Pastor  
Deacon Paul Coderre -- Pastoral Assistant  
Bernie Hartlin  
Christal Leahy  
Sharron Quinn

**Regrets:** Rene Brunet  
Mireille Church  
Philippe Moquin  
Katie Roberts

**1. Opening Prayer:** Father Pierre led us in an opening prayer.

**2. Approval of Minutes:** Deacon Paul proposed the approval of the minutes for the meeting of March 10th, 2010, following a few corrections: Anna-Marie Young was not present; Archbishop Prendergast and Fr. Pierre visited 4 schools and 5 senior homes; Christal seconded the approval of the minutes.

**3. Pastor's Report:**

i) For the Feast of the Sacred Heart, which falls on June 11th, 2010, Fr. Pierre would like to purchase and distribute a prayer card of the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, one per parish household. Deacon Paul will scan a card so he can print information about the devotion in our bulletin. Fr. Pierre offered to bless these cards before distribution. It was determined that the cost of the cards, which is about \$175.00 for 500 cards, would be covered by our parish Social Mission budget.

ii) Father Pierre addressed Church scandals, emphasizing that God uses ordinary people to call us to action and lead us to affirm our Faith. He stressed that we are called to address pain in our Church, rather than remain silent on the issue, or simply "ride the wave." Fr. Pierre distributed a letter by Sam Miller, Cleveland businessman, published by the KofC Brookside Council #3297, Cleveland Diocese. It addresses the lies promulgated by the media in the name of "freedom of the press," and emphasizes the responsibility of the press to present the truth.

iii) When asked about the status of our budget proposal, he confirmed that our Finance Committee had been waiting for salary information for two employees so that the budget could be approved. This has come in, so we should hear news of the approval soon.

iv) Fr. Pierre briefly addressed questions of security on Church property and confirmed that this is being handled adequately and appropriately.

## Old Business

**1) Update on Retreat for Married Couples:** As Philippe was not available to give a report, Christal and Fr. Pierre shared their experience of the Parent Retreat held in the Church on March 13th, 2010. It was estimated that about 30 adults attended the retreat and about 10 children participated in the activities put on by our youth volunteers. This was extremely successful. Adults viewed Part One of the Matthew Kelly presentation on the church screen and afterward engaged in a good discussion led by Fr. Pierre. Topics included "being busy," taking time to nurture our faith, and focussing on that which gives meaning and purpose in our lives. All were enthusiastic about the opportunity to have another similar retreat. It was proposed that an article be written with input from some attendees to put in the bulletin and encourage participation in our next event. Christal agreed to work on this with Philippe. It was suggested that the parish might hold a series of similar retreats for adults for faith enrichment to help parishioners grow in, and also lead their families in, the practice of their faith. One idea is a retreat on HV; it is suggested that the Pro-Life committee be contacted for ideas of expert guest speakers in this field. Christal to discuss a proposal for this with Fr. Pierre.

**2) Light for the Stained Glass Windows:** Bill Raaymakers has offered to donate a second light to reflect our Stained Glass Windows from outdoors. A light that is currently outside can be re-directed to reflect one of the windows and he will offer the second will be aimed at a different angle. He estimated that it would cost about \$800.00 for an electrician to do this work. There was a suggestion that we might find a parishioner who is an electrician and is able to offer this service at a good rate.

**3) Cost of Archbishop Dinner:** The dinner has been paid for and it did not affect the Parish and Community Life budget; and Father didn't have to use his fund. Our accountant found some money to cover the dinner.

## New Business

**1. Spirituality:** Council members offered the following suggestions for improving spirituality in our parish:

i) Legion of Mary to sell Rosaries, medals, and books, during First Communion and Confirmation Seasons; for next year, we can offer this in the weeks leading up to the celebrations. Christal knows a School Board colleague who is also a local jeweler who makes beautiful quality Rosaries, if this is something the Legion would like to explore.

ii) Maureen will keep council informed of new parishioners so that contact and a warm welcome can be extended to them. We are asked to think of people who might fill the role of visiting new parishioners to welcome them more personally into the parish.

iii) Parish Auxiliary: Deacon Paul renewed the call for a parish auxiliary to be formed to oversee the parish social life, including such events and fund-raisers as a spa day with parish estheticians, parish community garage sale in the parking lot; Murder Mystery Dinner; Paint Ball with Fr. Pierre; parish Trivia Night with Larry Carroll; arts and crafts show with crafters of our parish. Fr. Pierre suggests calling this committee "The Fun Club" to help encourage parishioners to sign up

for this ministry. (see also item number 4)

**2. No agenda item for number 2.**

**3. Marketplace:** sign up sheets will be out in September for parishioners who wish to sign up for various ministries. Placed on every second seat with golf pencils. Stressing we need to create more socials and celebrations therefore we must start a Church Auxillary.

**4. More socials:** this item is covered under Spirituality (see item 1.iii above.)

**5. Reminder -- Concert Night Fund-raiser:** Allison Fagan has offered to host a Concert Night to raise money for the Stained Glass Windows Project; this will be held May 29th. Money collected will go towards stain glass window #3. We will need volunteers to organize cake and coffee for after the performance.

**6. Volunteer Appreciation Night:** Dates to remember June 9th Volunteer Appreciation Night. Fr. Pierre's Ordination date (item removed as it will be celebrated next year). Must create the year end report and receive reports from all Ministries.

**7. Parish Feast Day:** September 12; discussions at a later time for organizing any functions.

**8. Parish Council nominations:** Nominating Committee; Council members should begin looking for nominations of new Council members.

**Varia:**

**1) Hike for Life:** Sue Byrne-Boudreau and Christal Leahy and their families are our parish designated hiker team this year. Forms have been distributed via the bulletins and announcements were made at all Masses this past weekend (April 10/11, 2010).

**2) Annual March for Life and Rose Dinner:** will be held at the Hampton Inn on Wednesday, May 12, 2010. A table of ten seats is being purchased by the Pro-Life Committee. Sue Byrne-Boudreau to determine parish representatives in coordination with Fr. Pierre and Deacon Paul.

**3) New OCCSB Religion Program:** As several parishioners have expressed concern in anticipation of the Ottawa Catholic School Board's new Religion Curriculum, Christal has contacted Jan Bentham, Coordinator of the Religion and Family Life Program at the Board Office. Jan has offered to address concerned parishioners and to answer any questions they might have regarding the new curriculum and its conformity to Catholic values and morals.

**4) Council end of the year party:** Parish Council will hold its end-of-the-year party at Fr. Pierre's house. It will be a potluck dinner; Sharron is offering a meat dish; BYOB; spouses are invited.

**Closing:**

**1) Next meeting:** to be held May 12th, 2010 in the Boardroom.

**2) Closing Prayer:** led by Deacon Paul.

**3) Adjournment:** Christal motioned to adjourn the meeting; Bernie seconded.