

Holy Redeemer Parish Pastoral Council Meeting **October 14th, 2009 – Board room**

Present: Fr. Pierre Champoux – pastor
Mireille Church
Martin David – KofC representative
Rene Brunet
Ray Fournier – Chair of Financial Council
Bernie Hartlin
Christal Leahy
Chris McKensie
Philippe Moquin
Sharron Quinn

Regrets: Deacon Paul Coderre – pastoral assistant
Katie Roberts – Youth representative

1. Opening prayer - Fr. Pierre
2. Sharron welcomed everyone and introduced the members that were absent at the last meeting.
3. Christal moved that the meeting minutes of the last meeting be approved. Mireille seconded.
4. Budget process
Ray Fournier who is the Chair of the Financial Council explained the budgeting process of the parish.
 - when the October results are done (3 weeks after the end of the month) Barry Smith, the accountant, puts together a budget based on the current year expenses.
 - A preliminary budget is put together for early January. The budget cannot be finalised until the December figures are done (3rd week of Jan) as the diocesan rules require balanced books (no deficit).
 - The finance council using input from the pastoral council and considering maintenance and new construction requirements modifies the budget. (Obviously this process starts before January but is finalised at this time.)
 - parish council's budget covers all aspects of parish life except the physical plant and youth ministry. Several years ago, the parish council. Of the day decided that youth ministry was to be financed via the yellow enveloped and the fund raising efforts of the youth commission. Last year, as Fr. Oliver was unable to fulfil his contract, those monies were used to offer full-time hours to the youth minister. This may not be possible in the up-coming year.

A discussion on the merits of the yellow envelopes ensued. Mireille pointed out the view of the youth commission that by using financing the youth separately, it appears that they are extra to the parish. Bernie also pointed out that some people feel that if they have no children then those envelopes do not apply to them. Ray recalled the history of the envelopes and that they provided a net increase of income. The parishioners increased their support after it was explained what the yellow envelopes monies were used for. In his opinion, that may be the best method to ensure proper financing of the youth programmes. Fr. Pierre thinks that the youth commission should establish a realistic budget and present it to council and then to the parish.

5. Pastor's report

- A) Pasta with the Pastor was well attended and Fr. Pierre enjoyed meeting many parishioners.
- B) Installation - Fr. Pierre thanks his fellow Knights of Columbus and also appreciated Fr. Joe's explanation of the link between the pastor, the parish and the diocese.
- C) Movie Nights - about 30 people at the first (Dead Poet Society) with good feedback at the end. The second one had only 10-12 for Pope John-Paul II. Polar Express was slated for November but because of other parish activities it was decided to show it to the altar servers Saturday preceded by a mass at 11:00. Saturday the 17th the movie will be Mr. Holland's Opus.

D) Secretary to replace Peggy Lowrey - there were 14 applicants and 5 were interviewed. Maureen Brannon was hired and will start in two weeks. Peggy has agreed to stay on and train her. The role will be more secretary/receptionist. Mary-Jane will take on the bookkeeping as the volunteer that did it (Cam) is unable to continue. This requires consistency especially with the mass intentions that are very difficult to manage.

E) Schools - Fr. Pierre has contacted the parish representative for each of our schools.

F) Stained Glass Windows - the first one is expected to be delivered by the end of November. They have fairly traditional design and the first one is of the crucified Christ bequeathing John to his Mother Mary. The other two will be of Jesus life and his resurrection.

G) Archbishop's Dinner - the holy Redeemer table is all filled up. Proceeds this year will go to the Shepherds of Good Hope and St. Vincent de Paul central council.

H) Visiting priest - as mentioned previously, a possible way to get an assistant pastor is to offer room and board to a graduate student studying in Ottawa in return for saying on Sunday. There are no diocesan priests available.

I) Bishop's Parochial visit - Msgr. Prendergast wants to visit every parish in the next two years. It will likely consist of a weekday mass though he may be there for Sunday. He will also examine the parish books as well as review the different ministries in our parish. The goal is primarily a pastoral one.

6. Update on the Pasta with the Pastor dinner. By all accounts it was a success. Even if it was not meant to be a fund raiser we realised a profit of \$400.00.

7. Update on Quilt sale - to date \$2977.33 has been sold. The draw will be November 29th.

8. There was no youth report as Katie Roberts was not there.

9. Youth Commission report - Mireille Church

- the commission was originally set up to raise funds for the youth programs
- it has established four objectives of youth ministry
- the commission has recommended a full time minister for these programs as they now encompass the family mass as well as youth groups and leaders
- at a meeting of the commission attended also by Sharron and Christal, Melissa explained the difference between relational ministry which is one on one and comprehensive where youth are present in all aspects of the church ministries. This is where the youth should be moving to.
- to date the junior youth group has been rebuilt
- there was a worship and praise session with the Anglican youth
- there is a need to attract the youth who are not comfortable with youth groups through new programs

10. Refugee Family - They are arriving in ten days and will be staying at an uncle's house. They will be given a monthly allowance. They will need help with integration and some things as St. Vincent de Paul's society cannot be expected to provide everything. This weekend a call for volunteers will be put out.

11. Dr. Poppa' gift. - Dr. Poppa has offered a gift of a blanket and a quilt to be used to finance the stained glass windows. After discussion it was decided that they be put in the KofC auction in the spring. Christine will contact Dr. Poppa.

12. Day of reflection - Philippe suggested that this may be a good idea for couples (especially with children) to take some time to reflect on their faith as couples. Sharron found a 6 week program. This was discussed but seems to be too much. The idea would be for it to be an afternoon or evening with babysitting provided by the youth. Fr. Pierre has some material that could be presented. Philippe was mandated to discuss this with Fr. Pierre and Christal offered to help.

13. Gift for Peggy Lowery - Rene moved that we provide a \$100.00 restaurant gift certificate as a token of our appreciation of her 12 years of service. Bernie seconded.

14 Varia

A) Bulletin - Sharron pointed out that last year the council had set out guidelines to go from universal to local. There should be a ministry highlighted each week. Bernie suggested that in early December the St. Vincent de Paul should be featured to coincide with their fundraising effort. Sharron also suggested that a message from both the pastor and the deacon seemed to be competitive. Fr. Pierre reassured the council that as of the upcoming Sunday they would alternate.

B) Rewriting the organisational chart (mentioned earlier should be a task of the parish council in concert with the pastor.

C) the parish Website is not up to date. This is being looked after by a volunteer - Chris Atco.

D) the KofC youth committee is having a soccer challenge Saturday at 9:30

Mireille moved that we adjourn - Christal seconded.

Next meeting - Nov. 11th, 2009 at 7:30pm in the board room