

Holy Redeemer Pastoral Council

October 19, 2006

Present: Fr. Paul, Tom Lavrisa, Adam Dupuis, Ray Fournier, Sharron Quinn, Anna Marie Young, Dave Roberts, Blair Malis, Fr. Oliver

Absent: Claire Cheesman, Tom Dewar

Opening Prayer

The meeting started with a prayer led by Fr. Paul, including a reading from the Gospel of Luke about not worrying about tomorrow.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of September 21 were adopted without changes.

Reports of the Permanent Committees

Liturgy Committee: Fr. Paul reported that Christmas liturgies were decided at their last meeting. Masses on Christmas Eve will be at the church at 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 11:00 pm, and at Holy Trinity High School with Christmas Pageants at 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm. On Christmas Day, Masses will be celebrated at the church at 9:30 am and 11:00 am. The Music Ministers have chosen the Masses they will sing at, while three Masses are not staffed yet. The Advent Penitential Service will be held December 13, after the evening Mass. The Liturgy Committee will meet October 29 to plan the liturgies for the remainder of the year.

Youth Representative: Adam reported that both Youth Groups have started and the Senior Youth Group meeting had a record attendance of 23 youth. Two skits were presented that evening, and the next meeting is scheduled for Halloween.

Social Mission Link: Dave Roberts reported that no meeting was held during the last four weeks.

Youth Commission: Tom Lavrisa reported that the commission met to discuss the proposals Mario Ferrante put forward to measure the effectiveness of our Youth Ministry. The team to hire the next Coordinator of Youth Ministry met and agreed on the successful candidate. Fr. Paul will meet with that candidate and inform the other two candidates of our decision.

Parish & Community Life: Sharron reported that two volunteers would organize a parish celebration on Nov. 5 to thank Ted Hurley for his years of service in the Youth Ministry. A Volunteer Appreciation will be held June 21, which will include Mass, the parish Annual General Meeting, and a Wine & Cheese Social. The groups within this committee wish to host some Coffee Sundays, with the Legion of Mary in October and Pastoral Care in January. It was suggested that Pastoral Council could host one in November and the Youth Groups in February. Discussion about moving the refreshments to the vestibule followed, and a suggestion was made about hanging curtains in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel to better isolate it from the vestibule during Coffee Sundays. No collections are to be held during Coffee Sundays as it is meant to be a social for parishioners to get to know each other. Alf Macdonald will prepare instructions on how to host a Coffee Sunday for those groups who have not hosted it before. In order to protect those with allergies to nuts, the snacks shall be served from separate plates. October 29 is scheduled for the volunteer sign-up weekend. November 18 was scheduled for the sale of gift baskets, and a Remembrance Day Mass is scheduled for Nov. 30. Dates for the Irish Night and parish picnic following the 11:00 pm Mass at Pumphouse Park are to be chosen. A calendar of events will be created and given to the parish staff for ease of coordinating events. A discussion followed on who is responsible for approving parish activities.

Finance Link: Ray reported that for next year the two older large windows in the church would be replaced. For this year, the committee will complete work on the contracts for the parish staff, including job descriptions and benefits. Phase 2 of the renovations is proceeding well, with the paving, curbs, shrubs, and fence around the rectory completed. A fence will be built around the mechanical room and the trash bin. Lighting of the stone wall is next, starting with the lower levels followed by the cross and upper levels. A feature wall to the Blessed Virgin Mary (including votive candles) is to be built in the baptistry, completion by December 8, if possible. Budgets for the coming year will be requested in November, with a base of spending in the previous year. Any changes will have to be communicated to the Finance Council. The new budget will be approved by January, so that all groups will be aware of their budget for the year.

Policy and Procedures Committee

Sharron handed out a draft copy of a Lease Agreement for rental of the parish hall. Discussion followed on the rates to be charged to caterers, if they did not use the dishes, cutlery and/or fridge and stove. The parish would not rent out the kitchen only, without use of the hall. Pastoral Care will develop a list of caterers who could cater funerals and other such events.

Ministry Day of Reflection

Fr. Paul handed out his report on this event held October 19. Two themes were developed: one around Invitation (how we can be more welcoming to newcomers in the parish and those not involved in ministries) and Communication (to promote ministries through the bulletin, Mass announcements, school newsletters and in a personal manner). Parish councilors can wear their nametags and welcome newcomers to our church. A follow up meeting is scheduled for Dec. 2 at 9:00 am.

Varia

Sharron reported that the signs advertising the 25th Anniversary could remain where they were and be modified to change the theme with the seasons, for example the banner could read "Keep Christ in Christmas" during the Christmas season. Fr. Paul will approve all changes before they can be posted.

A Fashion Show is scheduled for November 4, to benefit a parishioner who requires modifications to the family van in order to get around after contracting M.S. Anna Marie has written an article for the Kanata Kourier Standard publicizing the event.

A subcommittee of the parish is to be created to review the requests for fundraising events at the parish. Dave Roberts was asked to chair this committee, Anna Marie, Ray Fournier, and Dora Mesec are to be asked to participate.

Tom Lavrisa reported that he did not post the minutes of the last Pastoral Council meeting on the web site, as that would have been in conflict with the Privacy Policy for the web site. The parish bulletins have also been posted, without informing those whose names appear in the bulletin, another violation of the policy. He suggested that the policy be changed to put the onus on persons who do not want their names to appear, to request that of the webmaster. A bulletin item and announcement after Sunday Masses is also to be prepared informing parishioners of the change.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held November 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish boardroom, with the Christmas Social on December 14.