

## Holy Redeemer Pastoral Council

September 21, 2006

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

### Opening Prayer

The meeting started with a prayer led by Fr. Paul, including readings from the Gospel and Psalm 96.

### Council Administration

The new members to council introduced themselves: Anna Marie Young, Dave Roberts & Blair Malis. Passing around a sign-in sheet collected contact information. **ACTION:** Tom Lavrisa to ask Jan Lesage to update the front page of the bulletin with the changes in the council members and positions. The election of officers for the year followed, with these results:

Chair: Anna Marie Young	Vice Chair: Sharron Quinn	Secretary: Tom Lavrisa
P&CL Link: Sharron Quinn	Liturgy Link: Fr. Paul Shepherd	Education Link: Claire Cheesman
Social Mission Link: Dave Roberts	Youth Link: Adam Dupuis	

### Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of May 17 were adopted with one correction in the timing of the parking lot renovation. **ACTION:** Tom Lavrisa to have the minutes posted on the web site after adoption by council.

### Day of Reflection

Pastoral Council will develop the plan for the year on Oct. 9, 9:00 am to noon in Fr. Paul's residence. Only one person could not attend that day.

### Ministry Awareness Day

Oct. 28 was chosen as the day to invite all the chairs of the Permanent Committees to a meeting with Pastoral Council for an information and feedback session. The goals and objectives of the Parish, a description and discussion of the organizational chart, an introduction of the Pastoral Council members and links will be covered. The Chairs of the Permanent Committees will be told that they can develop a budget for the year and have the authority to spend within that budget after it is approved by the Pastoral and Finance councils. The Pastoral Council remains as a resource for them to call on to help them fulfill their roles.

### Youth Commission Update

Tom reported that the Youth Commission was following its agenda with regular meetings. Up to the summer, they had developed a mission and goals for Youth Ministry within the parish. At the next meeting they will consider the ways of measuring the effectiveness of Youth Ministry. While Pastoral Council was on the summer break, Ted Hurley tendered his resignation, as he was hired in the Archdiocesan Youth Office. Fr. Paul accepted the recommendations of the Finance Council and Youth Commission to hire a replacement, although at this point it can only be a part time contract position due to the financial constraints of the funding for Youth Ministry this year. The new Coordinator of Youth Ministry (CYM) will be tasked with developing the vision that Fr. Paul has for Youth Ministry in the parish, which includes all ministries involving children and youth, from the Children's Liturgy, through Altar Servers, to the Senior Youth Group to mention three. In addition, the Archbishop has requested that a Grade Six Retreat begin in the parish this year. The position has been advertised in the bulletin and three candidates have applied. The Senior Youth Group has requested that more advertising be done, so that we can attract additional candidates, to have a larger pool to select the CYM. The advice of Pastoral Council was to go ahead with hiring, as the contract position is only an interim one (to the end of the year) and those who have been involved with the parish would have an advantage over someone else starting from scratch. The advertising for the position starting in January should be started ASAP, and that position should be more widely circulated. The only difficulty with this approach is that the first CYM is to develop the job

description for the second, as the first will be generating a strategic and operational plan for the vision of Youth Ministry, and that won't be available until close to the end of the contract.

### **Walkathon update**

Anna Marie gave a report on the plans for the walkathon by the group headed by Bert O'Connor. Prizes for the walkers were obtained from local merchants. The walk will start with an introduction of the dignitaries from the schools present, then a piper will direct the walkers to the start of the path for the walk. When the walkers return, there will be a BBQ sponsored by the Knights of Columbus where they can buy food, the youth choir and a steel band will provide music, and an inflatable jumping gym will keep the younger walkers occupied. Anna Marie is working on getting publicity for the event from the two local TV stations. The walk will go ahead come rain or shine, only lightning would present a safety hazard requiring the walk to be delayed.

### **Christmas Mass Venues**

A suggestion was made that Christmas Mass not be held at the Scotiabank Place this year, instead Holy Trinity would be used to host additional masses. The advantages of this change would be financial as the rental would instead be used for the mortgage fund and reserve for the refugee family, and some parishioners have mentioned that the hockey arena is not conducive to prayer and reverence. The arena is not available in 2008 in any case, as the World Junior Hockey tournament will be hosted there. The advantage of continuing is that this year Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, so many parishioners will be attending two masses on that day, unless they attend on Christmas Day, so the church will be quite full as it is. We expect attendance of 5000 people for Christmas Eve, if the past is used as an indication of numbers. Fr. Paul will consider these factors with the Liturgy Committee and come to a decision.

### **Varia**

Tom Dewar raised the issue of service dogs being allowed in the church. Although there are no laws mandating this (as opposed to seeing eye dogs), he recommended that we allow this as other institutions have done so and our parish will be in the forefront of assisting people with disabilities to attend Mass. This matter was accepted after a short debate and Tom will procure the sign indicating the new policy.

Sharon asked for a progress report on contracts for the parish staff. Ray replied that the only contract completed was the one for the Coordinator of Youth Ministry, the others were substantially complete. Sharron also reported that the financial statements for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations showed a net profit of \$834, but some of the expenses were paid from other lines in the budget, so were not accounted for there.

Anna Marie thanked Claire for her service as Chair last year and expressed the hope that she will do as well.

Fr. Paul mentioned that Deacon Paul Cordere has been appointed to our parish, and will be introduced to us at the Masses that weekend.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held October 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish boardroom.