

St. Patrick Parish

Pastoral Council Meeting

Thursday, January 18, 2018

Boardroom

7 p.m.

Present : John Toccalino, Ana Marie Young, Deacon James Kubina, Fr. Paul Shepherd, pastor, Suzan Light, Lucy Gorman, secretary

Absent : Allen Galachiuk

Opening Prayer

Approval of the Agenda There are no additional items to be added and the agenda is approved by all.

Acceptance of the November 15, 2017 minutes John asks if there was any follow-up on the question regarding any parishes in the diocese who had proceeded with Divine Renovation. We are told that this was started at Blessed Sacrement parish. However, something occurred along the way and the community is no longer involved with the program at this time.

Christmas : What worked and what did not Question : Why did we not proceed as we had talked about at the last meeting (i.e. setting up chairs in the parish hall for the overflow crowd at the 5 and possibly 7p.m. masses)? It was felt that if some parishioners were diverted to the hall, they might not stay. In addition, it was deemed that we were somewhat late in turning our attention to this issue and thus we had no real time to adequately prepare to take proper care of the crowd.

Another difficulty turned out to be having a communion « station » under the clock at the back of the church. The area was too congested and it impeded the flow of communicants. We will reevaluate in the Fall.

Before we leave this topic, Ana Marie asks Fr. Paul if he informs people in the assembly to not take communion if they are not in good standing with the Church. He explains that he has not favoured this approach in his ministry.

Sunday Meet and Greet Are we going to continue to hold similar gatherings in the New Year? The consensus is yes absolutely. We should continue what we started in November. The question now is how often should these take place? And how does the Pastoral Council now envision gathering parishioners together? The members feel strongly that this should be a concerted parish effort and not just the responsibility of one or two people, however well-intentioned and responsible they are.

When should the next gathering take place? We agree on Sunday February 4 next after the two Masses. Lucy indicates that a couple of members of the choir have said they would be available to take this on on this occasion. Fr. Paul will ensure that a note is placed in the bulletin to encourage people's participation that week-end.

In March, the C.W.L. will be hosting their St. Patrick's Day Social on Sunday, march 11 following the two morning masses. This is an annual event that falls on the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day.

Members' presentations of their SWOT analysis of the the five systems exploring the weaknesses and threats that apply to this parish. (The strengths and opportunities will be addressed at our next meeting in February.)

Please note that a full report is attached to these minutes under separate cover.

Date for the Saturday workshop We determine that we will meet again on Saturday, February 24 at 9 a.m. to complete the second part of our analysis.

Lenten Faith Formation program Father Paul informs the members that this year we will welcome Dr. Barry Whitney, professor emeritus at Windsor University and a parishioner, who will present a course entitled « Suffering : Where is God » to the parish in March. More information will be made available to parishioners later on in the bulletin.

New business There is none.

Next meeting We will take up any new business at our February 24th meeting.

Closing prayer

Lucy Gorman
Secretary