

St. Mark's Parish Pastoral Council

April 19, 2017

In Attendance:

Arsenault, Sr. Mae
Breen, Fr. Don
Carey, Pat

Hache, Charles
Howe, Marilyn
Isaacs, Denise

MacDonald, Mike
Murphy, Dave
Stroud, Anne

Absent:

Beyea, Dianne
Carvell, Trinda
Drummond, Mavis

Ellis, Wendy
Glasgow, Mary Alice

Johnson, Kayla
Lawlor, Bill

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Pat Carey at 7pm.

The opening prayer was led by Denise Isaacs.

On behalf of Council, Pat expressed our condolences to Dave on the recent death of his mother-in-law, Ruth McNamara.

Pat briefly reviewed the minutes of the March 8, 2017 meeting, which were then approved on a motion by Denise Isaacs, and seconded by Charles Hache.

Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

- 1. Parish Pastoral Council election in May:** The election will be held on the weekend of May 27/28 this year. Fr. Don asked all PPC members to encourage candidates to offer for election. As of yet, no parishioners have confirmed their willingness to offer for seats on Council. A minimum of four candidates are required for an election to be held; otherwise, anyone offering will win a seat by acclamation. Anne suggested that a notice be added to the next Parish bulletin, and offered to prepare one. Pat will be listed as the contact person, should interested parishioners have questions. Pat will add the notice to the "What's New" section of our Parish website. Council were in agreement with these suggestions. Fr. Don emphasized that it is also important to personally invite potential candidates, including those who offered last year and were not elected at that time. Some discussion took place regarding potential candidates to be contacted, and Denise offered to contact three of them. Charles mentioned that Council may be able to recruit candidates at a Parish meeting held following the Diocesan Revitalization and Realignment Consultations scheduled for May 3 and 4. The names of candidates must be confirmed by our May 10 PPC meeting. Candidates will need to provide bios and photos for posters, if an election is held. Successful candidates will be invited to the PPC BBQ in June and will commence their terms in September 2017. Charles, Anne, Denise and Dave are all completing their terms, and are tasked with running the election. Fr. Don stated that it is important for these members to meet to decide how the actual election will be handled.
- 2. Diocesan Revitalization and Realignment Consultations:** The 4 locations and dates of the scheduled consultations in our region of the Diocese were reviewed. The 3 current models of realignment will be unveiled to the laity. Fr. Don is encouraging St. Mark's parishioners to attend the session being held at St. Alphonsus in Hampton at 7pm on May 4, if possible, as changes most pertinent to our area will be presented there. Fr. Don emphasized that it is very important for all

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PPC members to attend. Anne will send out a reminder e-mail to all members closer to the date of the meeting. Fr. Don will mention the consultations again at mass on the weekend of April 29/30. A lively discussion took place on this topic. Fr. Don reminded Council that the models will be designed to make the best use of the resources in our Diocese (priests, properties, finances), rather than being based upon sentiment. Council agreed that we should organize a Parish meeting following the Diocesan Consultations, in order to obtain input from parishioners. Our Regional Pastoral Council has requested that input be received by the end of May, so any Parish meeting will need to be organized quickly. The merits of holding a meeting following the weekend masses versus on a weekday evening were discussed. Anne suggested that we might not get good attendance on weekends in May, as May 14 is Mother's Day and May 20/21 falls in the Victoria Day weekend. The date and format of a meeting will be decided during our next PPC meeting on May 10.

New Business: There was no new business.

Updates re: Parish Ministries:

1. **Peru Committee:** An update was provided by Anne.
 1. Based on Fr. Don's meeting with Sr. Muriel and correspondence the Committee has received from Sr. Rita, it now seems definite that we will be unable to continue our relationship with St. Luke's Parish in Otuzco. The Peru Committee will meet before the end of April to discuss our options and it seems likely that the Committee will continue to fundraise in support of a different group or parish, whether in Peru or some other part of the world.
 2. A final cheque in the amount of \$2100 was recently forwarded to Sr. Rita in Otuzco. This amount includes \$290 donated by the Grade 8 and 9 students in the catechetical program.
 3. Anne read an excerpt from an e-mail sent to Denise by Sr. Rita Coumont on April 18. Sr. Rita thanked us for our recent donation, which will allow her to meet health care needs for some of the parishioners of St. Luke's before she returns to Canada in mid-June. Although Sr. Rita will be living in Winnipeg, she plans to attend a Peru 50th celebration to be held in Saint John in September. At that time, she hopes to be able to personally express her deep gratitude to the parishioners here at St. Mark's for our many years of generosity. Sr. Rita also stated that the people of St. Luke's are very much enjoying the postcards they received from us. These cards were delivered by Sr. Muriel Buckley, who is currently visiting in Otuzco.
 4. Denise mentioned that we will all miss the personal connection we had with St. Luke's Parish, which was made possible through our relationship with Sr. Muriel and Sr. Rita.
2. **Adult Faith Formation:** Denise reported that the "Introduction to the Bible" workshop held at St. Mark's on April 8 was successful. Fifteen participants, including the 4 presenters, Denise, Marilyn Howe, Janice Jardine and Anne Stroud, attended. A short description of the workshop and a photo may be submitted to The New Freeman. A copy was given to Fr. Don to review. This may also be added to our parish website.
3. **Media Ministry:** Anne advised Council that a "Did You Know?" bulletin insert for Art and Environment went out on April 1 and 2 as scheduled. Anne was advised by Peter McGinn that the Men of St. Mark's now prefer to hold their insert until the Fall, rather than having it issued on March 25/26, as previously planned. Peter will contact Anne when they wish to proceed with their bulletin insert.

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Pat shared information regarding the "St. Mark's Ministry Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast" being held on April 29. Council members are encouraged to attend. If members had not already responded to the coordinators of other ministries in which they are involved, they were asked to advise Pat whether they planned to attend.

The meeting was called to a close by Pat Carey.

The closing prayer was led by Denise Isaacs.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 7pm in Room 1.

Meeting will be chaired by Pat Carey. Minutes will be taken by Anne Stroud.

Opening prayer will be led by Trinda Carvell.

Closing prayer will be led by Mavis Drummond.