

## **Pastoral Council Meeting**

### **Nov 18, 2010**

**Present:** Father Murray, Kathleen O'Keefe, Natalie Simek, Lauren MacKay, Cherylann Grace, Karen Owens, Penny Yip, Nick Snary, Lorne Plooard, John Coderre, Paul Theriaut, Butch Cavender, Langoya Johnson, Ozzie Buhrmann

**Absent:** Adele Clewlow, David Westlake

#### **Opening prayer**

- Reading of Pastoral Plan "Embracing a Future of Hope" by members present.

#### **Introduction of new members**

- Lauren MacKay is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year UWO student currently at King's College.
- Nick Snary is currently in teachers college at UWO.

#### **Review of minutes from last meeting**

- Accepted.

#### **Review of Diocesan Goals for New Members**

- Six goals have been identified by the bishop as having the highest priority in our diocese (see previous handouts).
- Since this has been discussed in previous years, it was agreed at an earlier meeting that the current framework of Goal III will be passed on to the pastoral team. The team will develop a health related ministry to implement and will minister to "populations in need".

#### **Further development of Goal III**

- Discussion continued tonight on whether this should be further developed by the Pastoral Council. For example what else can fall under Goal III, and can there be subgroups within this goal. By a consensus it was determined that this goal requires further attention. We need to set parameters for these populations in need. We have to identify what these parameters are and to give concrete suggestions on how to make it happen.
- After discussion around the table about what exactly Goal III is and what it meant to the different council members, it was brought forward that we must focus on who falls under this umbrella and not try to fix the issue now
- After spirited input by many members, it was decided to focus on the words of Goal III and define the main words (i.e., wounded, searching, entrapped, those with material and spiritual needs). Suggestions included:
- Wounded
  - Reaching out to those without friends
  - Having coffee Sundays
  - Those with relationship issues. Focus on the individual. How do we get them involved?

- Searching
  - Those with depression or who are lonely
  - Stress associated with illness for both patient and caregivers
- Entrapped
  - Those that don't fit the "normal"
  - Those with different religious faiths
  - Individuals with disabilities
  - Individuals with less education
  - People with responsibilities they don't want
  - Today's youth—why are they not coming?
- Material needs
- Spiritual needs
  - The occasional parishioner
- It was mentioned that this is a huge undertaking but it is imperative that we need to begin and touch a small segment within the next five years in some manner. This can include, for example, adding to the existing goals or to improve upon them. Karen mentioned that through her involvement on the anniversary committee that people do want to get involved in some manner. Some are leaders and some are followers.

### **Reports from the pastoral team**

Kathy O'Keefe:

- Bible studies continue on Tuesday's at 1 pm. We have about 16 individuals participating.'
- RCIA has had seven sessions thus far. There are 12 individuals. We still require sponsors
- Rite of acceptance will take place on November 28, 2010 at 10:30 mass.
- Baptisms, bereavements, and home visits are very busy at this time
- Sunday school for children going well. Require police checks for leaders for which there is a five week waiting period.
- Involved with the liturgy of the word with children, as well as volunteer appreciation evening, and the new parishioners luncheon

Natalie Simek:

- Met with youth commissioners. Topics included on how to build the leadership pool
- Youth Ministry Fair taking place on November 27th and 28th, 2010
- Sports night continues
- Confirmation for children is in full swing
- Going with Lorne to the Youth Ministry Conference on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Lorne Plooard:

- Went to St. Mark's school on Wednesday. Presented to three classes to discussing various aspects of the mass including the Eucharist, sign of the cross, etc. Have had a great response from the principal and teachers. Going out at recess with children. They are very enthusiastic
- First reconciliation for the children is wrapping up. Dates are set for late November and early December

- For the Eucharistic ministries the individuals are showing up as scheduled which is great. More recruiting is going on at the moment
- Alter servers have new gowns
- There has been an increase in numbers from approximately 50 to 60 alter servers. Recruiting is still going on in hopes of getting 80 alter servers which would give 6 per mass. Alter servers may be given enhanced duties
- Want to bring more attention to the welcome desk. We need changes and are brainstorming ideas
- Met with Kathy about bible studies. This is a very intimate group.
- Attending the Youth Ministry Conference with Natalie
- Has moved into new office

**Father Murray:**

- Thanks to other members of the team
- We have a new caretaker. His name is Michael.
- A new office has been created for Yolanda
- The launch of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary coincides with Advent
- A banner will be displayed the first week of Advent
- The ministry fair will also take place on the first week of Advent
- Christmas schedule is going out with the newsletter. There will be no Saturday evening mass on Christmas and New Year
- Fr. Murray has been assigned to Catherine of Siena school
- Having a mass for Christians being persecuted in Iraq

**Report from the finance committee liaison (Cherylann):**

- Money is tight at this time
- Christmas and Thanksgiving funds are being used for operational costs
- Meeting for roof repair on Monday. We need 3-4 quotes
- We are still waiting for the building audit to be submitted
- Envelopes are to be picked up rather than mailed. This will save approximately \$8000
- There will be a change in the newsletter which will save about \$5000. Perhaps a newspaper type format. It will be given to the children in school and can be picked up at masses

**New Business**

- Pastoral Council investiture will be November 21<sup>st</sup> at the 12:30 mass.
- Ministry Fair will be the weekend of November 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are in place to man our booth

**Closing prayer**

**Next Meeting: December 16, 2010 – Everyone to bring goodies**

**Following Meeting: January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011**