

ASSUMPTION PARISH

November 21st, 2016, 1:00 pm
Parish Centre, Board Room

Present: Father Patrick (Pastor), Rachelle Warman (Assumption School), Carmel Behan (St. Gerard's), Charlene Bourcier (Maranatha), Loretta Netter (PEC), Anne Wate (Secretary), Lu Wuthrich (CWL, Faith & Life).

Absent/Regrets: Father Robert Mmegwa (Assistant Pastor), Liz Brach (HATW), Fraser Field (K of C), Reg Levangie (Maintenance), Christine Schreiber (PTA), Anne Schweitzer (Sr. Youth), Betty Wilson (Sliammon/Sacred Heart).

Guest: Shaun Clark, Parish Finance Committee member.

1. Opening Prayer at 1:00pm: Fr. Patrick Tepoorten

2. Adoption of the agenda: Amended to add 7.2 under New Business, God Squad update, Rachelle Warman. Moved by Anne Wate, 2nd, Loretta Netter, agenda be approved as amended.

3. Adoption minutes of September 26th, 2016: Moved by Fr. Patrick Tepoorten, 2nd Charlene Bourcier, minutes be adopted as presented. Approved.

4. Correspondence: Letter of October 13, 2016, from G. Elsbett, read to council by Fr. Patrick Tepoorten who will respond by letter. Letter retained on file.

5. Committee Reports:

5.1 Parish Finance Committee – presented by Shaun Clark, PFC member

5.1.1 Fr. Patrick welcomed Shaun to the meeting. Shaun went over the November 16, 2016 financial report; copies circulated and on file.

5.1.2 Our boiler debt should be paid by the end of December, 2016.

5.1.3 The PFC estimates we need to raise at least \$70,000.00 per year through the continuing Parish Maintenance Fund to keep current parish structures well maintained and rebuild reserves. Shaun reported Sunday collections remain constant, thankfully. The bequest our parish received from Red and Mary Lambert was a great gift.

5.1.4 Lore Netter suggested Shaun be invited to address the parish on our finances early in the New Year.

5.2 Parish Education Committee – submitted by Loretta Netter, vice-chair

5.2.1 Our budget for the 2016-2017 year has been signed off by Father T. and sent into head office. We had assistance from CISVA in preparing the budget, as we needed to make some cost cuts and some advice regarding fund raising. Thanks to the parish for creating the collection to cover our bus repair and maintenance costs.

5.2.2 We are in the process of planning for our AGM meeting to take place on Tuesday, November 22. The meeting will provide highlights from the pastor, principal,

finance, maintenance and advertising, among others, as well as a question and answer session.

5.2.3 An after school care program is in the final stages of planning and will begin soon. Toni English, one of our current SEAs, will facilitate the program. Lore added there will be a small charge for this service per hour.

5.2.4 The PTA has some vacancies on their executive (president, vice president and secretary) and hopes to fill these positions as soon as possible.

5.2.5 Activities at the school---Parent teacher conferences were held in October. For Pro D, some teachers attended workshops in Nanaimo and others in Vancouver. Volleyball has started. The Remembrance Day assembly was extremely moving. Teachers are currently busy writing report cards, as they go out this Friday. Our current enrollment is 158, a gain of one student since I last reported.

5.3 Assumption School Parent Teacher Association – no report

5.4 Catholic Women's League – submitted by Lu Wuthrich

5.4.1 The Parish Bazaar preparations are in full swing for members of the CWL. A few volunteers have come forward so that all of the booths, excepting the plant booth, now have sufficient manpower to run. In the November meeting the council approved some funds to go to the Lucky Seven Booth to buy new items for this booth which needs good prizes to maintain its success.

5.4.2 Father Tepoorten gave the group a short lecture on Indulgences and prayers for the dead.

5.4.3 Donna Beauchesne brought an article from the magazine "New Life" on Causes of Death to our attention: Researchers, using data from 2009 (the latest year for which all the relevant information is available), considered abortion among other causes of death. They found that induced abortion was by far the leading cause of death (1.152 million deaths), easily surpassing heart disease (599,413 deaths) and cancer (567,628 deaths), and accounting for 32.1 percent of all deaths that year. Disturbingly, among African Americans, abortions made up 61.1 percent of total deaths; among Hispanics, they accounted for 64 percent.

5.4.4 The CWL executive will change in January and Eileen Hannon is preparing a new slate of candidates for upcoming elections. Now is a great time to become involved in the CWL.

5.5 Knights of Columbus – submitted by Don Bourcier

5.5.1 We put on a "Confirmation Investiture" pancake breakfast on Oct. 30th.

5.5.2 We hosted a parish potluck on Nov. 5th. Approximately 36 people took part.

5.5.3 We had our Necrology Mass said for our deceased members celebrated on Nov. 13th.

5.5.4 We took care of updating and putting up signs around town for the parish bazaar.

- 5.5.5 We will take care of moving tables and provide security for the bazaar.
- 5.5.6 We will be having a Children's Christmas pancake breakfast with St. Nick on Dec. 18th.
- 5.5.7 The Holy Family Icon will be in our Parish in February for a week.
- 5.5.8 We will be putting a Valentine's Dinner for the parish on Feb. 18th.

5.6 Youth Ministry

5.6.1 Senior Youth: - see St. Gerard's 5.15.2 and 5.15.3

5.6.2 God Squad: presented by Rachele Warman

5.6.2.1 Rachele expressed the desire to rejuvenate the God Squad program for grades 4 to 7, but under the name of Junior Youth Ministry. She proposed training any grade 8 and 9 students interested in being youth leaders. She said she already has 9 young people who are excited to take on a leadership role. Rachele would like to hold a youth leader retreat, hopefully in January. Through the promotion of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, Rachele hopes to bring young children to Christ. The Junior Youth program would be open to all youth.

5.6.2.2 Lu Wuthrich moved, Carmel Behan 2nd, that the current God Squad youth program's name be changed to *Junior Youth Ministry*. The council further welcomed and approved Rachele's plans to rejuvenate the ministry by training grade 7, 8 and 9 students as youth leaders, focusing the ministry on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

5.7 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine - CCD

Fr. Patrick reported the students made a visit to the Cemetery on November 10th with Fr. Robert, in remembrance of the Holy Souls.

5.8 Pro-Life – No report

5.9 Maintenance – submitted by Reg Levangie

Maintenance done this month consists of repairs to a toilet at the rectory, lighting at the rectory, repairs to flooring in grade nine classroom, and the usual checking of safety equipment.

5.10 Sliammon - Sacred Heart Church – submitted by Betty Wilson

5.10.1 Getting ready for our own small fundraiser with a Christmas craft fair on Dec. 10th. The purpose is to have a fund set aside for any future major repairs as well as regular maintenance of the church. We do intend to donate a portion to the fund for the school bus.

5.10.2 We had a large funeral for an elder on Monday, Nov. 14th. Father Dass was able to come up to say the Mass. He had spent some time after Sunday Mass to visit with the elder when he was the assistant pastor in Assumption.

The family were very appreciative that he was able to come.

5.11 Maranatha – submitted by Charlene Bourcier

5.11.1 We are planning to have a 14 week program called “The Wild Goose is Loose” starting January 18. Wednesday at 7 pm. PRESENTED BY Fr. DAVE PIVONKA FRANCISCAN FRIAR. HIS DVD TEACHING EACH WEEK ON THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE, INCREASE YOUR FAITH AND EXPERIENCE GOD’S LOVE FOR YOU PERSONALLY.

5.12 Faith and Light – submitted by Lu Wuthrich

5.12.1 In October Faith and Light had a very successful trip to Gibsons to meet the Faith and Light group from Vancouver. A total of 32 members were together for singing, discussing the life of St. Francis of Assisi and renewing old friendships.

5.12.2 The group continues to have successful, well attended meetings and we are enjoying our new Chaplain, Father Robert, who has been present for every meeting and a great addition with his wonderful smile and calm demeanour.

5.13 Safe Environment Program – reported by Fr. Tepoorten

Father Patrick continues his search for Nadine Desilet’s replacement.

5.14 Hands Across The Water – no report....Liz Brach has been away

5.15 St. Gerard’s – submitted by Carmel Behan

5.15.1 St. Gerard’s continues to be well used; Youth, Rosary (Homeschoolers) Choir, Sunday Morning after Mass tea and coffee.

5.15.2 The youth hosted a Halloween party that was attended by app. 30 adults and children.

5.15.3 The youth will also be hosting a carolling session just before Christmas.

5.15.4 There were also 2 baby showers held for new mothers. There has been some discussion that this could be carried on in the future when new babies are born.

5.15.5 The heat has been turned on and will remain on throughout the winter. It is set low enough so as not to have the church freezing but enough to have steady heat. Users of the church have been asked not to adjust the heat. It is up to Dave and Margaret Warren to reset as needed.

5.15.6 A railing is being constructed by Keith Neri to be placed on the stairs going down to the basement. This area is in constant use and it needs a railing so that users of the basement are safely looked after.

5.15.7 There continues to be an average attendance of 55 each Sunday at Mass.

5.16 Building Seismic Committee - presented by Fr. Patrick Tepoorten

The committee has decided that it would not be sensible to proceed in the spring with any further studies on the remaining parish buildings at risk until the gym, the building found to be the most vulnerable for collapse in a seismic situation, according to the initial John Wallace Engineering report, is fully upgraded. At that time we will then proceed with a complete study, and recommended upgrades, on the remainder of the school and parish structures.

6. Old Business

6.1 Sanctuary lights at Assumption – There are now 9 lights burned out in Assumption Church. Father Patrick is meeting with Ian Milsom tomorrow, November 22nd, to see to having all the lights replaced.

6.2 Stewardship Workshop and Ministry Fair – Father Patrick, Charlene and Anne met on Wednesday morning, September 28th to discuss planning this event. It was decided the workshop should be held after a parish mission promoting parish life. As we are unable to have a mission in Advent, the workshop has been postponed until after the planned Lenten mission in 2017.

6.3 Sound System for the hearing impaired at Assumption – still being investigated.

6.4 Parish Celebration – to celebrate paying off the boiler debt

A suggestion was made we have a parish celebration in honor of our paying off the boiler debt. Lore Netter moved, Charlene Bourcier 2nd, that we hold said celebration at a Maranatha coffee and muffin gathering in the new year. Charlene will put a notice in the bulletin and Fr. Patrick will promote the event during his announcements. Sunday, January 8th, 2017 was the suggested date of this event.

7. New Business:

7.1 Time of Parish Council Meetings – Lore expressed concern some members cannot attend the daytime meetings. All members present understood the concern. Lore Netter moved the PPC meeting times return to the evening hour at 7 pm. 2nd by Anne Wate, approved.

7.2 Rachelle Bourcier – God Squad – see 5.6.2

8. Next meeting: Monday, January 16th, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Assumption Centre Board Room.

9. Meeting adjourned

10. Closing prayer...Fr. Patrick