

All Saints Pastoral Council

Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, April 24, 2019

7:00 PM Assumption Hall

1. Opening prayer: Aaron Skretting, Chairperson
2. Acceptance of Agenda: Motion that agenda is accepted as presented.
Moved: Richard Shelson Seconded: Cliff Bogdan PASSED.
3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the March 27, 2019 Meeting:
One error in Pastor's Report f) – change “Sit will be a fundraiser...” to “It will be a fundraiser...”
Motion to accept the Minutes of the March 27, 2019 meeting as corrected.
Moved: Richard Shelson Seconded: Shelley Thom PASSED.
4. Pastor's Report:
 - a) Fr. Kevin thanked the CWL for their Memorial Mass which took place on April 23, 2019 at 7:00 PM. The Mass went well!
 - b) Tickets for the Knights of Columbus 10547 Clergy Appreciation Night are nearly sold out!
 - c) Doorbells have been installed at Assumption Hall – one on the main doors into the hall and one on the kitchen door to the right of the main doors. There have been a number of thefts from the coat area of the hall, which cannot be watched from the hall, during funerals and meetings so now the doors can be locked and entry gained for latecomers by ringing the bell. The bell was ‘tested’ numerous times before tonight’s PAC meeting so we know it works!
 - d) The Parish Office has a security system as does St. Pat’s, but only those two areas. Doors continue to be either left unlocked or locked but not closed properly at both Assumption and St. Basil’s. This is happening regularly, often several times per week. There are also many people who have had unauthorized keys given to them and people letting others into the buildings and then leaving without making sure doors are secure! As a result we have no idea who is coming and going from our churches or who is responsible for leaving doors unsecured!! St. Basil’s is especially vulnerable due to its location and the problems occurring there. To change all the locks would be a very expensive process. Cameras are only a small deterrent and are expensive. As a result of these continual problems and constant calls to the police and to staff to check buildings (recently there was a call because Green’s Pop Shop staff noticed someone going into St. Basil’s at 11:30 PM), we are looking into some different security options to make our buildings safer and more secure. Also, windows have been vandalized at St. Basil’s for the second time and over the Easter weekend someone threw one of the large flower pots off the stairs onto the public sidewalk and made a huge mess. At St. Patrick’s 6 needles were found by the lawn service that had been missed by Arches. Recently luggage has been stolen from one of the hotels, raided for valuables and then dumped into the yard at the Rectory. We will wait for the security company to present ideas and quotes for improving security and we will go from there.
 - e) At the Finance Council Meeting this afternoon it was noted that our finances are doing well. We are paying our bills. The lease on the photocopier is coming due and we are in need of a new copier. On Holy Thursday there was a new collection which will be split between the Interfaith Food Bank and Development and Peace - \$4934.00 was collected. The Good Friday collection for the Needs in the Holy Land was \$11,493.00. Thank you!
 - f) The 10 City Gala is coming up on Saturday, April 27. Only 100 tickets have been sold and more need to be sold! Most of the tickets sold are non-parishioners and we would like to see much more support of this event by our parish! It is a great evening so encourage people to attend!
 - g) Farewell for the Sisters of St. Martha – Fr. Kevin approached St. Martha’s Parish about joining us for a combined event but there wasn’t any interest. Our parish will go ahead and plan something regardless. As the Sisters are very sad about leaving Lethbridge, we would like to plan something that is a joyous occasion for them!

h) The Southern Bishop's Dinner – re: section f) in the Pastor's report from the March 27, 2019 minutes – the Bishop has asked that monies raised at this event not go to particular school's program in the future. For future dinners, whether in Lethbridge or Medicine Hat, he would like to see criteria established (ie: 'food for the needy,' encompassing food banks, school district food programs, etc.) which would help determine who would be eligible to receive funds.

i) The Triduum and Easter celebrations went well! Fr. Kevin thanked all of the volunteers who worked so hard to make these 6 celebrations so beautiful! It takes a lot of volunteers to have these celebrations take place and those numbers breakdown as follows:

Total volunteers over the 6 celebrations – 295, including 5 Environment Ministers, 30 – 35 Music Ministers (including 2 on sound system and 1 on the projector), 24 Greeters and 33 Ushers, 18 Lectors, 34 Eucharistic Ministers, 9 Sacristans, 26 Altar Servers, 18 Gift and 3 Oil Bearers and 12 people who had their feet washed.

*Holy Thursday had 79 volunteers and 445 people attending Mass.

*Good Friday had 48 volunteers and 778 people attending the Service.

*The Easter Vigil had 71 volunteers and 370 people attending Mass.

*Easter Sunday 7:30 AM had 14 volunteers and 350 attending Mass.

*Easter Sunday 9:00 AM had 40 volunteers and 408 people attending Mass.

*Easter Sunday 11:00 AM had 42 volunteers and 557 people attending Mass.

Fr. Kevin said that he had a conversation with a parishioner in Tim Horton's on Holy Saturday regarding why we were holding the celebrations in the school and not in a church causing them to go to St. Martha's for Easter. He said that if a stable or school gym is good enough for Jesus, then we need to look at our own faith! We need to stop being arrogant about our faith - we come to give praise and worship to God, not to ourselves. There were some complaints about children running around at the Vigil Mass but we also need to remember that the children are the future of our faith and parish and we need to stop driving them away. It would be nice to have a family event like an Easter Egg Hunt after the Easter celebrations but we can't as we don't have the facilities. Also, we need to remember that our churches can only hold a set number of people as per fire regulations and, even though we broke those bylaws in the past, we are not doing that now. We already have many illegally parked parishioner vehicles at both churches at the weekend Masses and at funerals. There have been requests by the residents around St. Basil's to have a designated parking zone around the church which has not been approved as of yet!

A question was raised as to whether the schools are blessed? Yes, they are! Masses are held there regularly. The rubrics state that the priests should be barefoot to venerate the Cross as they are walking on Holy Ground – the schools are sacred spaces as well!

Who made the Altar used at CCH? The Altar now used at CCH was made last year by a grade 12 student and does contain an Altar Stone. It is interesting to note that the Altar at St. Martha's contains no relic.

A question was raised as to using candles at the Easter Sunday Masses? No, the candles may ONLY BE USED AT THE VIGIL.

j) What is happening with the new church? The plans are with the Bishop now and he wants to insure we can do all that needs to be done to get the project underway, ie: monies, plans, etc. There is power and water on site but no sewer at present. This summer we will be putting together the Site Plan for the City. The Bishop would like to see some low-cost housing plans on the site such as Habitat for Humanity builds, etc.

5. Old Business – none at this time.

6. New Business – none at this time.

7. PAC Activity – teaching on the Sacrament of the Sick.

8. Adjourned.

Future meeting dates: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 7:00 PM at Assumption Hall

Wednesday, June 19, 2019 7:00 PM at Assumption Hall – Social to follow.

All Saints Pastoral Council
PAC Activity for Wednesday, April 24, 2019

Do we understand the Sacrament of the Sick?

What is the last Rite a Catholic is entitled to? This would be the Funeral Mass which is a Rite of Passage from this life to the next. Many people assume the last Rite is the 'Last Rites', properly called the Sacrament of the Sick, but that is incorrect.

When did the Sacrament of the Sick become known as the 'Last Rites'? This Rite is as old as Jesus! During the Bubonic Plague in Europe in the late 1340s there were no funeral Masses. People were anointed when they became sick and then their bodies were burned when they died.

The Sacrament of the Sick contains many prayers for many occasions/illnesses, but the Rite will heal body, soul and mind – all three or any one. The priest does not know which will be healed - it is according to what the Lord knows is needed. Fr. Kevin told a story of a man who had been diagnosed with cancer. His family was severely distraught but the man was calm. When Fr. Kevin went to anoint him, he said that he didn't need anointing but his family did! So Fr. Kevin anointed all of them and did a teaching on the meaning of the Sacrament. Each person would receive the healing they would need – comfort, consolation, hope....

Anointing should happen as soon as a person finds out it is needed! Don't wait! Many people are afraid to be anointed as they think it means they will die imminently. Anointing cannot be done after a person has died.

One can receive the Sacrament of the Sick as often as needed as long as it is not abused. The essential element is that people have the trust of a child! On one's death-bed they can receive the Apostolic Pardon which absolves a person of all sins if they are truly contrite – this is in the hands of God. Anointing is a privilege, however, and is grace given freely!

Part of our responsibility is to see the Father's joy and compassion in the Sacraments and to be able to explain that to others. Remember that the Eucharist is THE MOST IMPORTANT SACRAMENT! Our example to others of how we understand and respond to the Sacraments is the most important way to educate them.

A question was asked about the correctness of people receiving the Eucharist in the hospital shortly after eating? People in hospitals and nursing homes are automatically dispensed from fasting by the nature of their situation.

What is the difference between the Sacrament of the Sick and Viaticum? Viaticum contains four parts: Confession, Liturgy of the Word, Anointing of the Sick and the Eucharist. It is used in cases of imminent death.