

**ALL SAINTS Pastoral Advisory Council Meeting
November 20, 2019 (Red Wednesday)
7:00 PM Assumption Hall**

1. Opening prayer for Red Wednesday led by Aaron.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda

The following additions and corrections were made to the Agenda:

i) New Business a) amend to read Concerns re: salaries and compensation – Ken Tratch

ii) New Business b) amend to read Corpus Christi – Fr. Kevin

iii) New Business addition e) Cancellation of December 2019 Pastoral Advisory Council Meeting
Moved by Shelley Thom, Seconded by Peter Lilienthal. CARRIED.

3. Review and Acceptance of Minutes

Review of minutes of the October 23, 2019 Pastoral Advisory Council Meeting with a correction to the Corpus Christi Report by Ann Morgan:

IT IS NOT TOO EARLY TO MARK JUNE 14, 2020 ON ALL YOUR CALENDARS. If you have never attended all, or any part, plan to come - perhaps consider it a priority over other activities on that date. – Ann apologized for this statement sounding rude. She is just encouraging people to attend.

And quote: How much time” you ask? You can begin with Mass at 11a.m. or a prayer service at 12 noon and be finished by 1:30 (LATER IF YOU STAY FOR THE LUNCH).

Next choice is to go to a prayer stop (locations to be announced) for about 15 minutes at approximately 12:15 and a

3rd choice is to come to CCH East Campus where the processions arrive about 1p.m. and

Benediction takes about 20 minutes. You can come earlier to this site for rosary and singing beginning about 12:30. Lots of choices to be involved including prayer.

- Ann asked that the spacing between the choices be added as it was missed. Ann expressed her thanks for all the support that everyone has provided for the past 13 years while she has coordinated the Corpus Christi celebrations. She is encouraging people to think seriously about finding someone to take over the coordinating of Corpus Christi Walk.

Moved: Colette Lemire. Seconded: Cliff Bogdan. CARRIED.

4. Pastor's Report

a) The 2 elm trees beside St. Basil's have been removed at a cost of \$2200. One other tree on the south boulevard was also removed by the City (on City property) as it was falling over. Fr. Kevin noted that the snow now falls differently around the building with the trees gone. There have been 5 trees that had to be removed around Assumption – 3 fell over in the September snow storm and 2 had to be removed as they were scraping against the building. There may be some other trees that will need to be removed due to damage – we are watching those for now.

b) Our insurance has come due and will cost \$45,000. This will affect the November finances which will also reflect the tree removals and \$5000 to fix the elevator at St. Basil's. There is still no timeline on when the elevator will be repaired and working as it has to be taken apart and sent to Edmonton to be repaired.

c) Please note that the Advent Reconciliation Services schedule and the Christmas Masses schedule are in the Agenda and also as follows:

Advent Reconciliation services:

Wednesday, Dec. 4 7:00pm St. Augustine, Taber

Friday, Dec. 6 7:00pm St. Peter, Milk River

Saturday, Dec. 7 10:00am All Saints @ Assumption

Wednesday, Dec. 11 7:00pm St. Martha's

Wednesday, Dec. 18 7:00pm St. Ambrose, Coaldale

Thursday, Dec. 19 7:00pm St. Catherine, Picture Butte

Friday, Dec. 20 7:00pm St. Joseph, Vauxhall

All Saints Parish Christmas Masses schedule:

Christmas Eve: 6:00, 9:00 and 11:55 PM Assumption and St. Basil's

Christmas Day: 9:00 AM Assumption, 11:00 AM St. Basil's

Please also note that there will be Adoration during Advent on Fridays at Assumption from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM and Reconciliation on these Fridays at 10:00 AM.

d) We are still in need of names for the Pastoral Advisory Council as we have 5 positions to fill!

There are things which the PAC elected members need to do so please pray about this ministry and ask if others might consider submitting their names as well. A question was asked regarding what the elected PAC members do. Fr. Kevin responded that right now we are waiting for decisions to be made regarding the new church. We are still in need of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and a Secretary, and he would like to see a gentleman coordinate the amalgamation of the Knights of Columbus councils and a woman to coordinate the amalgamation of the CWL councils as we are one parish and the Knights of Columbus and CWL should reflect this.

5. Old Business

a) All Saints Parish website – update on information collected last month at PAC. Alice will submit the information collected as a report to the next PAC meeting. Some people reporting were unaware of the content on the website and suggested items that are already there. Alice suggested spending some time exploring the website and seeing what is available. Many suggestions were that the website be more consistently updated – possibly we need a volunteer to help Karen Keith with this as she can only update content as her time allows. Feedback from parishioners regarding what content they like on the website and what content should be kept would be helpful. Please send your suggestions to reception@allsaintslethbridge.org It has been decided that the bulletin will be uploaded on the website on Fridays as we don't have the ability to set a timed upload. The request for a live-streamed parish Mass is under consideration but we would need to do some major upgrades to our internet. For now there is a link to Salt and Light Masses on the website.

6. New Business

a) Concerns re: salaries and compensation of parish staff – Fr. Kevin felt that this request should have gone to Finance Council and not to Karen Keith and Aaron Skretting. He informed the group that it is against the law to give out information regarding staff salaries and against Diocesan regulations as well. We have to follow Diocesan regulations which state that it is a fireable offence for staff to discuss their salaries at all. Even if we were to break down salaries by positions, i.e.: Administrator, Office, etc. the staff is small and the salaries could be easily figured out. The Diocese regularly reviews salaries and compensation to ensure that they are fair and equitable. As well, the Diocese has to approve every financial statement that goes into the bulletin. All staff members are entitled to a fair wage. The question that needs asking is whether staff are receiving a just salary? Employees of the church are always paid on the low end of the pay scale and so much depends on the donations coming from parishioners! Fr. Kevin noted that All Saints has one of two educated and qualified Sacramental Coordinators in the Diocese as most parishes can't justify the expense. However, if parishes want good staff that do a good job then they have to pay accordingly. A question was asked as to what parishioners were trying to find out with this request (Ken had said that the request was from parishioners and not from the Knights of Columbus) and Fr. Kevin replied that he was not sure. He said that 90% of the parish budget is taken up by maintenance, administration and salaries with the other 10 % being used for programs. Our parish uses 6% for programs and we try to save on expenses where we can such as having program books from the U. S. delivered to Sweet Grass and picked up from there to save on shipping.

b) Corpus Christi – Fr. Kevin stated that a new coordinator is needed, especially by the January planning meeting. The new person will not be Ann and will not do things as Ann has done them but will do well in their own right! He also stated that more could be done in terms of advertising the Corpus Christi Walk both outside and inside the parish. While there are many people and groups that help with Corpus Christi, someone needs to coordinate and communicate with them all and make sure that everything is in place. A request was made for a detailed description of what the coordinator's position entails. Fr. Kevin has asked Ann to put this together.

c) December PAC meeting on December 11 conflicts with the Penitential Service at St. Martha's. Both Fr. Kevin and Fr. Albert will need to be at St. Martha's that evening therefore the December PAC meeting is CANCELLED.

d) Fr. Kevin expressed his thanks to the attendees for wearing red in support of Red Wednesday. He also expressed his appreciation for all those who attend the PAC meetings and participate in the discussions. He stated that we are only as good as the information we share and how we look for and share solutions to issues in our parish. We may not always agree with decisions that are made but we do always try our best and we need to encourage new people and new ideas.

e) Mike Roberts shared that the Feast of St. Nicholas party will be held on Saturday December 7, 2019 at the Assumption Hall from 12:00 to 3:30 PM following our Penitential Service at Assumption from 10:00 AM to noon.

f) Fr. Kevin shared with the attendees that on Sunday November 17, 2019, CBC's W5 aired a program about sexual abuse in the Catholic Church. This included a segment about Fr. Jack McCann who served at St. Patrick's Parish in Lethbridge from 1963-1970 and was charged with sexual abuse. He was jailed for 10 years. There will be an insert in this weekend's bulletin regarding this. If questions arise and you are asked to comment, Fr. Kevin asks that you refer those asking to either the Oblates or to the Diocese of Calgary as we do not know the details and would therefore only be gossiping.

Pastoral Advisory Council Activity November 20, 2019

At the last PAC meeting on October 23, 2019 we began a discussion about what Social Justice is and what it looks like. Fr. Kevin prepared some reading on Social Justice which was sent out prior to this meeting for people to read. Fr. Kevin stated that the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy are the cornerstone of Social Justice. Our motivation for Social Justice should be because we believe in Jesus – often we don't recognize that we are doing works of Social Justice.

(Attendees spent time thinking about and writing down on pink sticky notes the Social Justice works that are occurring in our parish now, and then attached their thoughts to the appropriate Corporal Works of Mercy poster that applied to their thought.)

Fr. Kevin: Until someone makes us think about Social Justice in the parish, we don't. Constant renewal is needed in our parish. We have spent the last 14 years dying – dissention and uncertainty have been very present in our parish – but we have continued to flourish and grow! Look at all the pink sticky notes that have been put up! We have, for instance, really good jail and hospital ministry programs! There are limits to what we can do but there is also always more that we can do! For example: the Knights of Columbus coat drive in Calgary which delivered hundreds of coats to those in need; the cheques being written from funds raised at the Bishop's Dinner to 13 organizations in Southern Alberta totalling \$40,000 just in time to provide Christmas hampers and the food baskets at the back of the churches filled with donations.

(Attendees spent time thinking about and writing down on green sticky notes their thoughts as to what our parish could be doing or could be doing better in the area of Social Justice.)

Fr. Kevin: We need to think about how the Corporal Works of Mercy help us to see needs. Visit the Imprisoned, for instance, doesn't just mean those in a jail. What about shut-ins, the handicapped, those in nursing homes, people struggling with addiction? There are many types of imprisonment! Give drink to the thirsty – what are people thirsting for? Shelter the homeless encompasses evangelization and welcoming home the lost. Social Justice and the Corporal Works of Mercy contain layers and layers of meaning for us if we really look.

The information from tonight's activity will be compiled and made available at our next PAC meeting in January 2020. If you have any more thoughts or ideas, please contact Roisin at reception@allsaintslethbridge.org

The next PAC meeting will be on January 22, 2020 at 7:00 PM at Assumption Hall.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.