

All Saints Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting Minutes for November 9, 2023

7:00 pm Assumption Hall

1. Andy opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda

Motion made to accept the agenda as presented, made by Theresa, seconded by Cyndi. Carried.

3. Acceptance of the Minutes

Motion made to accept the minutes of the October 11, 2023 meeting minutes as presented, made by John and seconded by Katie. Carried.

4. Pastor's Report – Fr. Kevin

a) Fr. Kevin presented the meeting dates for the spring of 2024 as follows: January 17, February 21, March 13, April 10, May 8, and June 12.

b) Finance report –

i) You may have noticed a change in the last Finance Report to the parish. There was a drop in income due to accounting procedures. We now report the Central Fund and Building Fund as OTHER INCOME and place it at the bottom of the statement. Interest is paid on these items twice per year, in July and December. Interest is paid at 4.2 % per annum.

ii) As of the end of October 2023 we are in a good, but not spectacular, financial position, mostly due to some large donations made in April 2023. The 3-year comparison of 2021/2022/2023 looks good.

c) Repairs -

i) The elevator at St. Basil's has failed inspection. It can be used but must be repaired. We are looking at a cost of \$200 - \$6000 for the repairs. We're waiting for the company in regarding Edmonton to come down to do this.

ii) The canopy over the stairs at St. Basil's is leaking severely. Bob will follow up with Charleton & Hill as there is a signed contract to fix this. They are also supposed to repair the canopy outside the office at OLA.

iii) At St. Patrick's, the capon top of the northeast pillar has blown off so it will be looked at tomorrow, as well as the missing tiles from the roof.

iv) OLA water heater is fine, but the old chimney is leaking and needs repairs.

d) Sacramental Preparation -

i) Confirmation – 56 children registered for the course plus 3 more for Boot Camp

ii) 1st Reconciliation/1st Communion – 86 registered for the course plus 1 to 3 more for Boot Camp

iii) We continue to work with the schools to reach students who are baptized but need to receive other Sacraments.

e) Our parish has become very diverse culturally and this is interesting.

f) There will be an Altar Server training next week. Hopefully more Servers will be trained, but most of the children seem to be at the 9:00 and 11:00 am Sunday Masses. It is hard to find Servers for the other Masses.

g) Joe told PPC that Len Whyte and some friends have volunteered to fix the doors at St. Patrick's.

5. ELCPAP – Fr. Kevin

a) We are now in the process of reading and evaluating all the assessment reports and other information. This is heavy work!

6. Old Business – none.

7. New Business

a) Review of the Renewal session with Bishop McGrattan last evening, November 7. Fr. Tim did a reflection with those present on the Gospel about Zacchaeus. Some of the thoughts shared:

- It is important that we are all heard and all seen. It was nice to be able to reflect.
- The evening went well with the Mass and the meal together, the faith sharing. Nice that so many parishes came together and shared, including our Indigenous neighbors. This aspect of community is so important.
- Bishop McGrattan was just back from the Synod sessions in Rome and was able to share some of that visioning with us. Appreciated that the World Youth Day pilgrims shared their experiences on Saturday evening.
- Realize we have a massive task ahead in the renewal of the church, especially the alienated and the youth. Everyone will need to help.
- It was nice that the Bishop mingled with the group and listened to our comments.
- We will need to look to the Holy Spirit for inspiration. We will all need to continually work to improve our relationship with Christ.
- We need to have more of these sessions.

Fr. Kevin – the Calgary, High River and Lethbridge sessions filled quickly, and registration had to be closed early. The Bishop has asked that each Parish provide 3 – 4 people to take on lead roles to lead the laity in the renewal process. We need to remember that we can't change the teachings of the church or Canon Law.

8. PPC Teaching/Activity

Fr. Kevin led the group in a reflection on Matthew 10: "I have come to create division..."

Disputes happen in families, but do they matter? What are the important issues? We must have a heart for Jesus! How often do we appear as hypocrites because we don't put Jesus first in our lives?

Small group sharing took place. These are some thoughts from that sharing:

- The passage is familiar – we know what Jesus is saying. But how do I make sure I do things His way?
- We are not visibly living our faith; we are too caught up in the world.
- Don't fight with others, listen to them. Maybe they will listen eventually too. Actions speaks louder than words.
- Service – do things for the greater good of all. Remember the Corporal Works of Mercy.
- It takes a lifetime to get some wisdom and sometimes problems become teaching moments. Gratitude can be learned.
- Look for the heart of Jesus in everyone – he is there! Find those who have strayed. Do we know who is lost?
- Pray for others faithfully and pray for everyone.
- If we raise our children in the faith it will help them find their way.

Fr. Kevin – We all have 'stuff' – things of this world that distract us. If the Synod Renewal is to change us, the people, we have to guard against distraction by the world. This is a 4-year process and some will want to rush through it to reach the end, to 'get it done'. Attachment to the material world is distracting. All Jesus had to give was himself, and he did that. We need to

listen and share, but always with our eyes on the heart of Jesus. We need to take the time needed – we can't realize renewal if we rush. Allow time to be moved by the gift of the Eucharist. We NEED it, we don't deserve it.

Please God, may we each grow in love over the 4 years.

Try not to have expectations but be open to the Father's will and not be distracted by the world. Encourage others to get involved. Let God be in charge.

Motion to adjourn made by Joe. Adjourned.

Next meeting: Wednesday January 17, 7:00 pm.