



## OLPH PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

November 9th, 2016

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by chairperson, Maureen Landry; the following members were in attendance:

Father Jack	Robert Gaudet	Mary Ann Platz
Halina Solkowski	Jason Bodnar	Leta Shannon
Maureen Landry	Barb Kamstra	Father Raj
Helen Doyle	Linda Karpala	Michael Hauptman {guest}
Paul Corrigan {guest}		

2. The opening prayer was led by Robert

3. The agenda was accepted as distributed

4. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed

**5. Guest Speakers:** Michael Hauptman-Superintendent of EICS and Paul Corrigan-Principal of Formation-presented information on the district's goals for the year; there is an app and they have a u-tube page; there is also a website for teachers. Theme for the year is: Altar'd in Faith; hope is to increase the faith of teachers and students. Paul will start by meeting with principals on November 10<sup>th</sup>. St. Theresa of Calcutta is the patron saint of EICS; letter will be sent to new and immigrant families to advise them of Catholic education; information could also be in the carousel at the front of the church. OLPH website-currently being redeveloped-could have a link to the EICS website. EICS will be doing a vision for the system; a good resource being used by the faith formation principal is: Formed.org. Both speakers offered to be involved in any parish activities.

**6. Faith Discussion:** Don't be stingy with the Sacraments was discussed: agreed that the current Catholic church has changed to be more welcoming and forgiving, but is not seen by all people in that way, especially those who have left for various reasons. We should be following the lead of Pope Francis and be more sensitive to past experiences of parishioners and offer them the sacraments to further their growth in the faith. The church must have rules, but they can sometimes be too rigidly applied; we are making progress in finding ways to include people who have left the church, but need to keep looking for ways to encourage them to return to their faith. Divorce does not prevent a person from receiving the sacraments. Please read Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons and Families Considering or Opting for Death by Assisted Suicide or Euthanasia and You're cut off for the December meeting.

**7. Pastor's Report:** Father Jack advised that Sue Boyne fell on the stairs and broke both ankles; she will be away for a while.

## **8. Standing Reports:**

- a) Liturgy Council: Father Jack advised that the council will be reviewing preparations for Advent and Christmas next week; we now have a gluten-free communion station at all Masses; a stand is being made for the gospel book so it can be upright
- b) Finance/Administration: Nil report as Ron was away

## **9. Information, Discussion, and Action:**

### **a) Information:**

- i. Stewardship Weekend-feedback-forms are currently being processed
- ii. PPC Commissioning Mass on October 23<sup>rd</sup>-feedback: could we have a box for anonymous suggestions? Need for more reverence at the Masses-protocol is being developed; should the presider always be at the centre station for communion? Reception is the same from a lay parishioner as it is from the priest. Can we coordinate our calendars so we don't have too many things going at one weekend?
- iii. Guest Speaker for December 14<sup>th</sup>: Melissa Damur, ABJ chaplain

### **b) Discussion/Action:**

- i. PPC Retreat: All agreed that it was a very good day; let Maureen know if we would like something different next year
- ii. Parish Picnic 2017: Table till February meeting
- iii. Parish Visioning; Maureen distributed the vision statement agreed to at the retreat; it was agreed that the team who did the original work determine the next steps; others are encouraged to assist; hope to have a report in January.
- iv. Quid Novum: Check the website for updates; Linda advised that there is a film being shown at Sacred Heart Parish in Westaskiwin on The Original Image of Divine Mercy. This film follows the history of the original painting commissioned by St. Faustina. Linda will provide information on the film. There is a film presentation on Assisted Suicide at St. Thomas More Parish; Mary Ann will check re availability of a speaker on this topic and advise. Knights and/or CWL may be involved in this as well.
- v. Blanket Exercise: Agreed that it would be a good idea for our one of our Lenten Suppers.
- vi. Addressing the Congregation re Protocols for Mass: Father Jack is working on this and will get help from Father Raj and Father Pierre.

## **10. Parish Formation Activities:**

Alpha, RCIA, Alpha for youth, Catholicism 101, Potluck Dinners: There are 2 sessions of alpha in the fall, winter and spring; Catholicism 101 is very popular-could we have more people in each class? Will discuss at next meeting; the next potluck dinner is on November 18<sup>th</sup>, organized by the Jets.

## **11. What are we hearing from parishioners?**

- i) Are we having conversations, asking questions, interested?
- ii) Ministry Liaison Reports: Halina advised that she received a letter from the Small Christian Communities; they are requesting financial assistance to buy roses for their celebrations: Divine Mercy Sunday and the OLPH Feast Day; letter given to Father Jack; he

will ensure that they receive the money-\$400-\$500 and suggested that they submit a budget to the parish

Leta advised that the CWL is continuing their membership drive and MMO needs more volunteers.

Linda advised that the Encore group has a potluck on November 22<sup>nd</sup> and another one in December-will not be doing fund-raising this year; there were 20 people at the last Called to Protect Workshop; clothing nook is going well

## **12. Significant Dates:**

- a) Next PPC Executive meeting: Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 9AM
- b) Next PPC meeting: Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7PM
- c) Advent Penitential Celebration: Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 7PM

**13.** The closing prayer was led by Robert; meeting adjourned at 9:10PM

## **Follow-up Action Items:**

- 1. Contact your Ministry Liaisons re any issues for PPC-all members
- 2. Give ideas to Maureen re guest speakers-all members
- 3. Compose a draft on Church Etiquette for the December meeting-Father Jack
- 4. Put a link on OLPH website to the EICS website-Brenda
- 5. Read Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons and Families Considering or Opting for Death by Assisted Suicide or Euthanasia and You're cut off for the December meeting-all members
- 6. Assist with the next steps in the Visioning exercise-all members (if you wish)
- 7. Check to see if we can have more people in the Catholicism 101 class-Robert
- 8. Check availability of speaker on Assisted Suicide-Mary Ann
- 9. Provide info on the film being shown at Sacred Heart Church in Wetaskiwin-Linda
- 10. Contact Monna re having the Blanket Exercise at one of our Lenten Suppers-Maureen
- 11. Check the website for Catholic Education: Formed.org-all members
- 12. Determine if there is a brochure from EICS that could be put in our lobby-? Raylene/Helen
- 13. Draft letter to parishioners re the benefits of Catholic Education-? Raylene/Helen