



OLPH PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

February 7th, 2017

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

Father Jack	Ron Dick	Leta Shannon
Linda Karpala	Raylene Yuzyk	Father Raj
Maureen Landry	Barb Kamstra	Jason Bodnar
Helen Doyle	Ron Ross	Monica Friesen
Robert Gaudet	Halina Solkoski	Elizabeth VanEngelen{ guest }
Marla Waldner{ guest }	Barb VanEngelen{ guest }	

2. The opening prayer was led by Monica

3. The agenda was amended to add 3 items under #9(a)-Information, Discussion and Action:

- ii) Habitat for Humanity
- iii) Threat to Catholic Education
- iv) Action Items-follow-up

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

Clarification from question #8(b) iv K of C Spring Social in the previous minutes; decision is to limit time of voucher to 3 hours.

5. Guest Speakers: Marla Waldner and Elizabeth VanEngelen from Young Disciples gave a brief summary of the program; it was started in 2000 by a group of mothers at OLPH; youth range from kindergarten to grade 9, and learn about their religion and the lives of the Saints. They also do volunteer work, and have fun nights; an increase in faith is evident in the students involved, and Elizabeth started as a toddler in Young Disciples several years ago; they are at full capacity for this year-80, and would like to have more space and more teachers so they can increase their numbers for next year. High school students are helpers/teachers in the program. The cost is \$40 per child or \$100 per family and the program runs from October till April.

6. Faith Discussion: Brief discussion on: Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons and Families Considering or opting for Death by Assisted Suicide or Euthanasia; consensus was that our society does not fully understand death, nor are we prepared for it; we need to be compassionate towards those who are suffering and offer them the Sacraments if they are repentant. Priests and bishops have the flexibility to offer a funeral Mass for the soul of a person who dies via suicide or euthanasia. Cremation is now acceptable in the Catholic Church, but the remains must be intact. For March meeting, read: No Tabernacles Necessary

7. Pastor's Report: Father Jack advised that Brother Joe will be ordained a priest at OLPH by Bishop Wiesner on July 15th; Brother Joe will be preaching at some of the Masses soon; give any constructive feedback to Father Jack on his sermons

8. Standing Reports:

- a) Liturgy Council: Nil report
- b) Finance/Administration: Ron advised that they are working on the annual report for 2016 and the budget for 2017; both should be completed by the end of February; will send us a copy. Question re money for the roof repairs-we may have to hire an expert to determine the problem; we have a reserve fund to be used for maintenance and repairs. There were less baptisms, marriages and funerals in 2016 versus 2015.

9. Information, Discussion, and Action:

a) Information:

- i. Goal setting Workshops 2017: Decision was to defer till after the completion of our visioning exercise.
- ii. Habitat for Humanity: Ron Dick attended a recent meeting of this organization; they build houses for people in need and are always seeking volunteers in various areas; they hope to build 75 houses in Edmonton this year; Ron will contact Betty Donovan or Pat Lemire to determine their involvement with the interfaith group; a parish ministry could assist with a build by providing lunch or whatever is needed; a guest speaker from the organization is coming to one of our Soup and Bread suppers and that is a good way of advertising and informing parishioners of the need for assistance. Your volunteer hours can be recorded for the 150th anniversary of Confederation by registering with the County
- iii. Threat to Catholic Education: Raylene provided an article from the Journal re the Edmonton Public Board chair wanting to provide Catholic programs in their schools; danger is an erosion of Catholic education. Raylene composed a letter for our community re the benefits of Catholic Education; it is more than courses; Catholic education permeates all subjects and every aspect of the school system from sports to volunteer activities to sacramental preparation. Review the letter and give feedback to Raylene.
- iv. Action Items follow-up: #3-Father Jack is working on this; #5-Father Jack will inquire about this at the next deanery meeting; #6-Raylene will do; #7-speaker came from the Archdiocese; #8-completed by Robert; #9-Raylene will do; #10-completed by Raylene; #11-Blanket Exercise will take place on March 25th from 1-4PM-Maureen will send an invite to ministry leads, and they will be encouraged to invite their volunteers; #12-Conference held-400 people attended.

b) Discussion/Action:

- i. Shrove Tuesday: February 28th-Maureen will send list reminding PPC of duties they volunteered for

- ii. Picnic 2017: Jason, Linda and Halina volunteered to coordinate; will ask Lorraine to put an ad in the Bulletin for April
- iii. Parish Visioning: Robert advised that the group has completed the vision exercise; he distributed an outline of the strategy areas that OLPH could consider, along with the demographic data and the SWOT analysis for OLPH; an example-strategic plan was given to address the low number of families contributing to the financial needs of the parish; the team hopes to present completed drafts of all strategy plans at the March PPC meeting. OFF will be changed to GIFT-Growing in Faith Together; a summary of course/workshops was distributed for the remainder of the year
- iv. QuidNovum: Check the website for the latest updates
- v. Blanket Exercise: Will be at OLPH on March 25th
- vi. Addressing the congregation; Father Jack is working on this

10. Parish Formation Activities:

Alpha, RCIA, Alpha for youth, Catholicism 101-see brochure for updates

11. What are we hearing from parishioners?

- a) Are we having conversations, asking questions, interested?
- b) Ministry Liaison Reports: Robert advised that the next potluck supper will be on February 17th; Ron Dick advised that the Cursillo group are planning 2 weekend sessions to explore the program in the fall; info advertising this will be on the screen during weekend Masses; the ICPM group will be providing lunch at the Bissel Centre on February 19th-have enough volunteers, but still need some baked goods. Linda advised that a Called to Protect Workshop was held here recently with 40 people in attendance; 2 more workshops are planned-check the Bulletin for dates. There will be a presentation from the World Youth Group at the Soup and Bread Supper on March 10th; we need a parish group to lead the Stations of the Cross on March 31st; maybe PPC could do this; let Linda know if you can assist.

12. Significant Dates:

- a) Next PPC Executive meeting: Saturday, March 4th at 9AM
- b) Next PPC meeting: Wednesday, March 8th at 7 PM
- c) Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 28th

13. The closing prayer was led by Monica; meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM

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. Complete Church Etiquette follow-up-Father Jack
4. Read No Tabernacles Necessary for the March meeting-all members
5. See what other parishes in Archdiocese are doing for the Philippine community-Father Jack
6. Advise Betty and/or Pat about PPC discussion on Euthanasia-Raylene
7. Determine if there is a brochure from EICS that can be put in our lobby-Raylene
8. Give feedback to Raylene on her letter re Catholic Education-all members
9. Advise Linda if you can help lead the Stations of the Cross on March 31st-all members