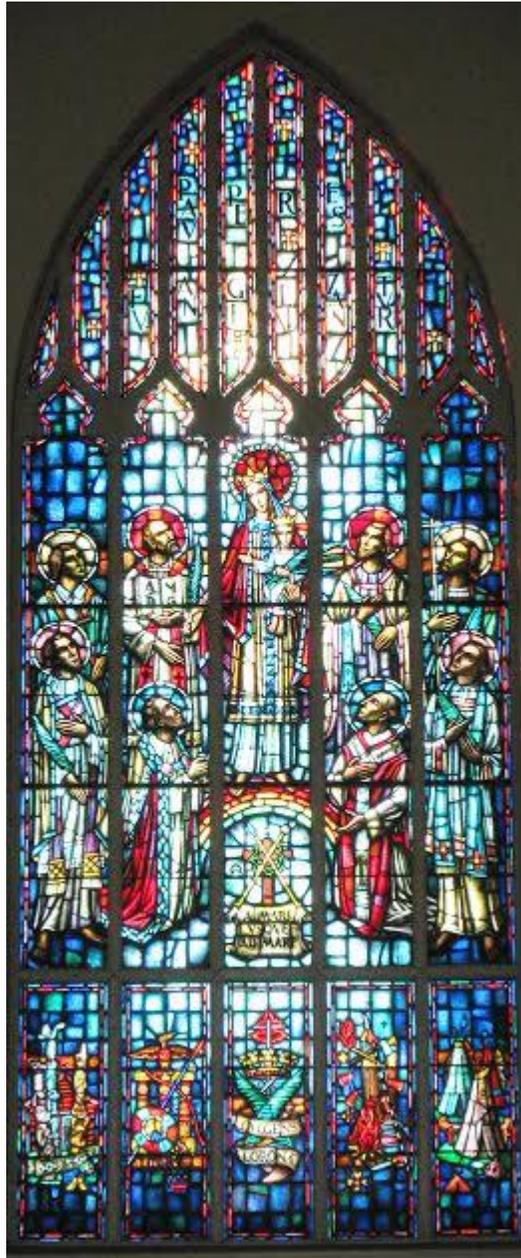


**Holy Canadian Martyrs Church
Pastoral Plan – Update of Activities**



2018

The Canadian Martyrs Pastoral Plan is a living document. First launched in 2015 it has gone through several reviews and editions. We present herein the 2018 Holy Canadian Martyrs Pastoral Plan and Update of Activities.

As the newly installed pastor of this vibrant little Roman Catholic parish I am edified to see the dedication and foresight of all those who have given of their time to prepare, maintain and update this plan. Many months have been spent reviewing the plans, the activities and the accomplishments of the past several years, and envisaging what could be.

But this isn't just another bureaucratic exercise, another document from a committee; rather this is an attempt to prayerfully discern how this community and its members are being called into closer union with each other and with our God, and how we can become more effective agents of the building of God's Kingdom in this time and place. This isn't just an evaluation and a vision document; it's our attempt to hear God speaking to us, encouraging us, calling us to serve those most in need of the hope and promise that only God can provide.

May this Pastoral Plan be a source of blessing and guidance for us all.



Timothy Coonen, omi
Pastor
26 February, 2018

A year ago a new Pastoral Plan, 2015 -2020 was launched. This Plan has served to guide us on directions that needed to be taken so as to best animate Canadian Martyrs Parish. This was indeed an auspicious undertaking.

The past few months we have been busy reviewing and reflecting on what has been and yet again we ponder how best to proceed in the coming year. I am impressed with the number of people who have gathered to share their visions, dreams, and yes we heard of things that need improving.

It must always be remembered that Canadian Martyrs Parish is a living organism. It is constituted from a variety of cultures and age groups. Because it is alive it is really not possible to freeze it in time and conclude that we don't need to plan any further.

I am entirely grateful for the people who undertook to steer this project to its conclusion. In particular, I thank Magda Kubasiewicz who has taken on the responsibility of ushering this process forward and keeping us on track. We thank all who actively participated in the process. It has taken some significant time and energy on the part of all.

I am happy to present to you the revised Pastoral Plan for 2016-17. On the whole the plan has not changed substantially but it has been updated to incorporate new objectives for the year 2016 – 2017

Needless to say putting our plan on paper is only the first step. It is only with the active participation and co-cooperation of all that will make the Parish community a life-giving experience for all. I encourage everyone to get involved in something.

To one and all I say Thank You. I pray God's Blessings on the Parish. May this Pastoral Plan guide us to holiness. Grant us, Oh Lord the gift of your Holy Spirit that we might walk in justice and peace with a lot of laughter and good fun that our life journey will be profound but also joyful.

May it be so.

In Christ and Mary Immaculate,



James Fiori, OMI
Pastor

Vision

“A Welcoming Oblate Parish, Living Our Faith In God.”

This vision emerged during our planning efforts from October 2014 to May 2015, and was adopted by pastoral council on May 26, 2015. “A welcoming Oblate parish” is engrained in our sense of identity. “Living” because we are a vibrant community, very much alive in the Holy Spirit; “Our Faith” because we profess one faith together as a Church; “In God” both because God has dominion over all and because God is love.

Mission Statement

“Holy Canadian Martyrs Parish is a welcoming Christian community reaching out to all who seek God. We joyfully live, renew and share our Catholic faith through worship, prayer and service, especially to those in need, under the leadership of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate and our laity.”

This statement, an expression of our identity, was developed through consultations with parishioners between 2007 and 2009, in preparing the pastoral plan that was released in June 2010. It is carried forward into this pastoral plan for 2015-2020.

Annual Update of Activities

One feature built into our pastoral plan for 2015-2020 is “adaptive management”. This simply means that whereas the strategic objectives for our parish are relatively stable over the five-year period, our planned activities are re-evaluated and refined on an annual basis.

In November 2017, the Parish Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee gathered in retreat with Fr. Jim Fiori and Fr. Tim Coonen in order to review the pastoral plan and, in particular, the planned activities for 2018. Professor Cathy Clifford opened the session with an excellent presentation on the role of the parish in spreading the “Joy of the Gospel”. An evening open to the parish was scheduled following this in order to allow parishioners to prayerfully make the final decisions as to what should be included in the plan. Unfortunately, due to lack of participation, this phase of the update was not carried out.

Nevertheless, the fruit of the work of the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Committee is the inclusion of the Finance Committee as part of the plan and a thoughtful and prayerful update of our activities, viewed through three lenses: continuing activities that serve us well; new activities that can reasonably be planned for and carried out in 2018; and important activities that may take a few years to ramp up, hence are foreseeable by 2020. In practice, several committees and ministries may work together to implement these activities, and perhaps fulfill several objectives. As the last page suggests, we might thus create a whole that is greater than the sum of the parts, and continue to grow in faith as the body of Christ.

Pastoral Plan 2015-2020



The plan encompasses five areas of Christian life as lived in the Church,
shown visually as five circles containing a cross.

The vertical dimension pertains primarily to our relationship with God.

Celebrating Our Faith

Learning About Our Faith

Scripture, Tradition, Church teachings, Liturgy, Sacraments, prayers,
lived expressions of faith and joy in God

*“The foremost is,
‘...you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul,
and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’”*

- Mark 12:29-30

The horizontal dimension pertains primarily to our relationships with people.

Bringing Our Faith into the World Faith

Being a Community of

evangelization, missionary action, social justice, service to the poor,
communion – of one mind and one heart, caring for and sharing with one another

*“The second is this,
‘...you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’”*

- Mark 12:31

The centre – the core – holds all together: God is love.

Stewardship and Leadership

serving one another and giving thanks to God

“The Eucharist is the sacrament of love: it signifies love, it produces love.”

- Saint Thomas Aquinas

**Of course, these five areas of our Christian life
are interrelated and dynamic!**

Celebrating Our Faith

“Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks...”

- 1 Thessalonians 5:18-20

Objectives

- To promote joyful, conscious, full and active participation in the liturgies and the sacraments.
- To enable reverent and relevant celebrations and create sacred spaces through music, spoken words, and visual environment.
- To express our faith in diverse ways through prayers, rituals, symbols and silence.
- To offer liturgical celebrations that motivate, challenge, strengthen and sustain us to live our Christian lives each day.

Activities Foreseeable by 2020

- develop ways to create integrated liturgies that bring together the roles of several ministries (presider’s assistants / altar servers, lectors, music, Eucharistic ministers) – perhaps offer seasonal preparation sessions involving these ministries.
- display something in the liturgical environment that was created by the children – perhaps as an activity during the Advent and Lenten fairs.
- host spiritual retreats during Advent and Lent – half days set aside for prayer, reflection, spiritual reading, along with music, candles, icons and symbols.

Activities Planned for 2018

- coordinate and/or host ecumenical celebrations with Christian churches nearby.
- encourage and enable participation by youth in Sunday Mass:
 - ⇒ volunteering on the projection team;
 - ⇒ writing and leading the Prayers of the Faithful.
- find a coordinator for lectors and a coordinator for altar servers. (NEW)
- examine possible changes to the liturgical space. (NEW)

Continuing Activities

- participating in preparations toward liturgies for special feasts and celebrations, spearheaded by the liturgy committee, with significant support from our community:

Community Mass (monthly); Feast of Canadian Martyrs; Commissioning of Ministries; Memorial Mass; Reconciliation (Advent and Lent); Anointing of the Sick; Christmas, including children's pageant; Baptisms; Rite of Enrolment; Solidarity Sunday;

Passion Sunday; Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil); Easter Sunday; Pentecost; Confirmation and First Eucharist; Mass on the Grass.

- supporting the presider for each Saturday evening / Sunday morning Mass, by the laity:

⇒ assisting in the liturgy – presider's assistant or altar servers;

⇒ selecting and leading the congregation in the Psalm and hymns (gathering, offertory, communion, closing) – adult and children's music ministries;

⇒ leading in singing (at least one Mass each month) – children's choir;

⇒ proclaiming the Word – first and second readings – lectors;

⇒ preparing the Prayers of the Faithful – members of the community;

⇒ leading the congregation in the Prayers of the Faithful – lectors;

⇒ selecting the visual images projected on the wall – liturgy committee;

⇒ adapting the church environment via symbols and flowers to reflect liturgical seasons, feast days and themes of the Mass readings – liturgical environment team;

⇒ operating the projector – technical support team;

⇒ (Sundays) following the final blessing – children's percussion section.

- serving Communion under both species, bread and wine (GIRM 281).
- participating in Mass weekdays – supported by a lector and a Eucharistic minister.
- praying the Rosary weekdays prior to Mass – by a small group of parishioners.
- sharing in conversational prayer – evenings, at beginning and end of Scripture study.
- walking the Way of the Cross – youth-led, during Holy Week.
- having joint celebrations with the Malagasy, Rene Goupil and Kateri Native Ministries groups

Continuing to encourage joint efforts among ministries. Recent examples:

- *liturgy committee, liturgical environment and Development and Peace have worked together, for several years, on themes and symbols for Lent.*

Learning About Our Faith

“I want their hearts to be encouraged and united in love, so that they may have all the riches of assured understanding and have the knowledge of God’s mystery, that is, Christ himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom...”

- Colossians 2:2-3

Objectives

- To encourage and support one another in growing together in faith in Christ.
- To share, enrich, and learn from our individual and communal spiritual life.
- To raise awareness and increase understanding of Church tradition, teaching and practice relating to:
 - (i) scripture, creeds, liturgy, and sacraments;
 - (ii) human dignity, God’s mercy, and life in Christ;
 - (iii) evangelization, social justice, and service to persons in need;
 - (iv) prayer.
- To enable discussions and discoveries about matters of faith in relation to events and situations in our world today.

Activities Foreseeable by 2020

- present, teach, and foster discussion on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, looking at Profession of Faith.
- provide “in service” teaching via guest speakers, set up a resources shelf in the library, and hold combined retreats for debriefing, sharing, and reflecting on experiences, to strengthen links among volunteers who serve in children’s ministries.
- have a parish retreat during Lent focusing on the sacraments of healing, i.e. the eucharist, reconciliation and the sacrament of the sick. **(NEW)**

Activities Planned for 2018

- present a session on the family (perhaps as Lunch & Learn), drawing upon *Amoris Laetitia*, the follow-up document to the two synods convoked by Pope Francis.
- present a number of evening sessions after Easter, the number to be determined, on *Laudato Si* (On Care for Our Common Home), and invite other Christian communities to join us. **(NEW)**
- explore the possibility of having a homily on the first Sunday of Lent on prayer, followed later by more in-depth presentations on various forms of prayer, e.g. lectio divina, Christian meditation, etc. **(NEW)**
- present, on a Saturday morning in Advent, a session on the theme: Who is Christ and what does faith in Christ mean for our lives (salvation, evangelization, social

justice...) inspired by *Evangelii Gaudium* and Part Three (Life of Christ) of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. (NEW)

Continuing Activities

- Advent and Lenten fair – twice per year – discovering and growing in faith through crafts and activities for children.
- Scripture Study – roughly 15 sessions per year, weekday evenings – reading, reflecting, and sharing responses and insights about our faith in God, based on Little Rock Scripture Study series (commentary, study guide and DVD): – gospel of John – Winter-Spring 2017, before Lent and/or into Easter.
- Children’s Liturgy of the Word – three Sundays per month, in two groups – discovering and discussing faith in God, from Scripture readings for Mass.
- Youth activities program, monthly on Friday evenings, exploring and discussing faith and spirituality, focusing on a theme for the year.
- Lunch & Learn – monthly, after Mass – presenting and discussing topics of interest to parishioners, with a view of living our faith in the world. Requested topics include: (i) aging parents; and (ii) death and funerals – what every Catholic needs to know.
- Development and Peace – Fall Education – presenting talks or a workshop as a forum for reflection and discussion, and offering written materials (theological reflections, campaign backgrounders) on a theme in social and/or ecological justice.
- Development and Peace – Share Lent – distributing written materials – bulletin inserts, theological reflections, information about development programs with partners in the Global South.
- Preparation for Baptisms – approximately 3 sessions (1 per family), evenings – offering workshops with catechesis, prayer celebration, reflection, and review of liturgical rites, for parents and godparents.
- Preparation for Sacraments – approximately 16 sessions, evenings – offering formation for children and parents; sharing in prayer celebrations; discovering the mystery of God’s love, through crafts, stories, readings, and rituals; experiencing and reflecting on rites and symbols that connect Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- RCIA program, offer on ‘as needed’ basis
- Faith Formation – two sessions, Saturday mornings on themes for Advent and Lent.

Continuing to encourage joint efforts among ministries. Recent examples:

- *youth group made use of Development and Peace resources materials in one of their activities and discussions during Lent;*
- *faith formation combined efforts with Development and Peace to present brief talks on Laudato Si’ and climate change, after pizza supper and as Lunch & Learn.*

Bringing Our Faith Into the World

“Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to all creation.”

- Mark 16:15

*“You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”*

- Matthew 5:14-16

Objectives

- To act on opportunities to serve the poor.
- To promote social justice and stewardship of God’s creation.
- To share the good news of our faith in God’s love with our neighbours.
- To focus our efforts, develop meaningful partnerships, and direct some of our financial resources to Oblate missions and ministries.

Activities Foreseeable by 2020

- explore community events that will bring people “in” to our parish centre, e.g. a luncheon for people in the neighbourhood.
- appoint a parish representative to S.L.O.E. (Sustainable Living Ottawa East), reporting back regularly to pastoral council about interests and concerns in the neighbourhood.
- focus our efforts and develop a meaningful partnership with one local (Canadian) agency active in social justice – e.g. OMI Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation.
- focus our efforts and develop a meaningful partnership with one ‘global South’ mission that directly serves people in need – e.g. OMI mission in Kionyo, Kenya.
- determine the needs of the student community in the neighbourhood (Immaculata High School, Saint Paul University). **(NEW)**
- explore establishing a ministry to the elderly, including surveying the needs in our area in collaboration with neighbouring churches, and pairing older and younger parishioners, e.g. partner with the Friendly Visitor Program. **(NEW)**
- explore ways in which we can become “spirit-filled evangelizers”, e.g. presentation to the parish by Cathy Clifford, interviewing people who are examples to follow and writing an article. **(NEW)**

Activities Planned for 2018

- distribute invitation leaflets (parish brochure and supplemental insert) in Ottawa East, including the new residential developments on the former Oblate lands.

- invite a member of the OMI Lacombe Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation office to speak in our parish about social justice activities.
- take up a special collection to support the OMI mission in Kionyo, Kenya.
- engage in activities to better understand and build relationships with Indigenous peoples, e.g. presentation on the Truth and Reconciliation process and the commitments made by the OMI and the Catholic Church; inviting Kairos to do a Blanket Exercise at the parish. **(NEW)**

Continuing Activities

- Operation Christmas Child – sending gift boxes to bring joy to children living in poverty or areas devastated by extreme events in Latin America, Africa and Asia – office volunteer prepares decals, parishioners provide items, youth write cards and fill boxes, coordinator delivers boxes to depot.
- Ottawa Food Bank – sorting and packing food items at the central depot for distribution to food banks throughout Ottawa, by youth and adults of the parish.
- Share Lent collection – fundraising for development programs with partner agencies in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East, via Development and Peace.
- emergency response collections – fundraising for humanitarian aid programs in areas affected by droughts, typhoons, earthquakes, tsunamis, etc. by Development and Peace.
- DREAM Team – supporting students from Immaculata High School, for a two week project serving the poor in the Dominican Republic.
- Food Drive during Lent – parishioners donating non-perishable items, coordinators delivering these to Shepherds of Good Hope and Centretown Churches Food Bank.
- Centretown Churches for Social Action – having a parish representative who attends monthly meetings, reporting back to our parish about current needs and initiatives.
- donations approved by Pastoral Council from interest on Tobin estate and from poor and needy donations – providing financial support to local and international organizations.
- action campaigns – seeking signatures of support (postcards) toward political change on concerns in social and ecological justice, through Development and Peace.
- activities of the OMI Lacombe Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation office – signing petitions, participating in letter writing campaigns, and attending symposia and special liturgies, related to First Nations, mining industries, and ecology and climate change.
- participating in Doors Open Ottawa every two years.

Continuing to encourage joint efforts among ministries. Recent examples:

- *a parish dinner was combined with missionary work, in fundraising for DREAM team;*
- *youth activities program and preparation for Confirmation joined forces for an apostolic activity to serve the poor, by volunteering at the Ottawa Food Bank.*

Being a Community of Faith

“For where two or three are gathered in My name, I am there among them.”

- Matthew 18:20

“And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds.”

- Hebrews 10:24

Objectives

- To create a welcoming environment in which every person feels valued.
- To act with compassion and care toward one another.
- To enjoy meaningful friendships and have fun being together.
- To enhance our appreciation of being an Oblate parish.

Activities Foreseeable by 2020

- establish a healing ministry.
- include in the parish budget an amount to be set aside to help needy parishioners.
- host an international pot-luck supper, featuring foods from a wide range of cultural and ethnic traditions.
- explore a “bartering service” in which adults may ask the youth for help with tasks (e.g. social media) and, in exchange, offer to provide a service (e.g. mentoring).
- host a retreat – a special event for members of our community to deepen our understanding of what it means to be part of an Oblate parish.
- explore home-based, small groups for Scripture study, prayer, spiritual growth, fellowship, encouragement toward outreach, plus of course, tea and cookies.

Activities Planned for 2018

- have a prayer service that would enable people to name and grieve the losses they have experienced in their lives, and to experience healing.
- explore areas in which we can partner with St. Joe’s; advertise key activities taking place at St. Joe’s. **(NEW)**
- engage in inter-faith activities wherever possible, e.g. joint celebration for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, explore “messy Church” at Ascension Anglican for children, joint bible study, joint prayer and joint outreach activities. **(NEW)**
- survey those who participate in pizza suppers and parish lunches to see if there might

be recommendations for improvement. **(NEW)**

- explore establishing a ministry to families, including a survey of their needs, and a caregivers' morning out program. **(NEW)**

Continuing Activities

- visiting parishioners in their homes, hospitals, assisted living or seniors' residences, by trained pastoral care ministers.
- writing thank you notes, get well cards, and sympathy cards to parishioners, as a sub-ministry of pastoral care.
- providing transportation for our elderly parishioners – to and from Mass, parish luncheons and groceries shopping, on as needed basis, by individual volunteers.
- greeting people at each entrance to the church before Saturday and Sunday Masses, by the welcoming ministry.
- arranging decor on small tables in breezeway, by liturgical environment team.
- providing coffee / tea / juice and cookies after Sunday Mass – each week – setting out cups, brewing coffee / tea, and cleaning up by hospitality team.
- parish clean-ups – two per year, spring and fall – obtaining supplies, coordinating teams, scrubbing / sweeping / raking / pruning etc.
- enjoying social activities among youth (e.g. bowling, pizza night) .
- hosting coffee houses with music .
- coordinating and hosting various community meals, each involving setting up tables, coordinating chefs, buying and preparing and serving food, cleaning up afterwards:
 - ⇒ pizza suppers – monthly;
 - ⇒ parish luncheons;
 - ⇒ lunches following parish clean-up;
 - ⇒ snacks during Lunch & Learn;
 - ⇒ hospitality after special Masses;
 - ⇒ parish BBQ after Mass on the Grass.

Continuing to encourage joint efforts among ministries. Recent examples:

- *youth preparing for Confirmation have taken part in the parish clean-up several times, and on one occasion, they helped to prepare, serve and wash dishes for lunch afterwards;*
- *the lunch following one parish clean-up was prepared according to the guidelines for sustainable farming as presented in education materials by Development and Peace.*

Stewardship and Leadership

“Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God...” - 1 John 4:7

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”

- 1 Peter 4:10

Objectives

A. Parish Pastoral Council

- To promote involvement of laity in the Church.
- To encourage parishioners to discover and develop their gifts and to offer them opportunities to grow through service.
- To support and nurture members of our community who are active in ministry.
- To foster liaison and collaboration among ministries and committees, with the pastor and Oblate leadership, through shared information and joint efforts.
- To strive for balance among the spiritual and social dimensions of Christian life, based on love of God and love of neighbour.

B. Finance Committee (NEW)

- To responsibly manage the parish finances.
- To maintain the church buildings and property in an operating state and in a sustainable manner.

Activities Foreseeable by 2020

A. Parish Pastoral Council

- mandate the Communications Committee to identify, inventory, and develop a resource base of materials (books, websites, brochures, church experiences, parishioners’ input to pastoral planning) that may be drawn upon for designing pamphlets and web pages for welcoming and outreach.
- establish a parish archive. (NEW)
- in preparation for the 2020-2025 Parish Pastoral Plan, invite those who were closely involved in developing the current plan to attend a session of the Parish Pastoral Council in order to share their perspectives, experiences and learnings. (NEW)

B. Finance Committee (NEW)

- complete the renewal of the church grounds by making the south-west area of the property (back entrance and deck) more visually welcoming and wheelchair accessible.

Activities Planned for 2018**A. Parish Pastoral Council**

- host an event to recognize and thank children and youth who volunteer in ministries.
- provide a formation session and training workshop for the music ministry and for those involved in children's liturgy. (NEW)
- offer a half-day retreat at the beginning of the school year to those involved in children's liturgy. (NEW)
- add a standing item to the agenda of Parish Pastoral Council for reporting by the pastoral team. (NEW)
- include a standing item for the Communications Committee on the Parish Pastoral Council agenda. (NEW)
- examine the staffing needs of the pastoral team. (NEW)
- regularly announce and encourage parishioners to attend Parish Pastoral Council meetings. (NEW)
- establish a fund-raising committee. (NEW)
- produce a design for the renovation of the hospitality area of the parish hall for the Finance Committee to use to determine ways and means. (NEW)
- establish a schedule in the agenda of Parish Pastoral Council meetings to enable members of committees and ministries to attend and speak to Council if they wish. (NEW)
- produce a Chart of Ministries to be displayed at the back of the church. (NEW)
- Communications Committee to develop a strategic plan for their work. (NEW)

B. Finance Committee (NEW)

- resolve issues with seasonal flooding and leaks in the section of the basement under the breezeway.
- complete the reparation of the pull-down (hopper) stained-glass windows on both sides of the church.

- construct the redesigned choir platform and cabinetry in the north alcove of the church.

Continuing Activities

A. Parish Pastoral Council

- holding an Annual General Meeting in the fall.
- preparing an annual budget in collaboration with the Finance Committee.
- attendance at Finance Committee meetings by a member of the Parish Pastoral Council and sharing minutes of meetings.
- holding a joint retreat annually for members of the Parish Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee to plan and establish priorities for the parish.
- recruiting, building teams and providing training or mentoring for new volunteers, including the younger members of the parish, for:
 - ⇒ preparation for Baptisms;
 - ⇒ preparation of the prayers of the faithful;
 - ⇒ projection (slides during liturgy);
 - ⇒ liturgical environment (decor);
 - ⇒ parents to assist with the Christmas pageant;
 - ⇒ lunches and hospitalities;
 - ⇒ distribution of leaflets in our neighbourhood(s).
- providing resources for volunteers in ministries and parishioners seeking to grow in faith: workbook for lectors; booklets with daily meditations, reflections, and prayers during Advent and Lent.
- providing formation sessions and training workshops for liturgical ministries – Eucharistic ministers, lectors, altar servers, Presider’s assistants, as necessary.
- offering orientation to opportunities for volunteers.
- hosting appreciation events for volunteers in committees and ministries.
- fostering communication – weekly bulletin, articles in the Epistle, regularly updated parish website, Facebook, etc.
- hosting an annual pancake breakfast before Lent, and the BBQ for Mass on the Grass.
- visiting the various ministries and committees and reporting back to Parish Pastoral Council.
- pastoral planning – annually reviewing our current activities, and refocusing or refining our priorities for the next year.

B. Finance Committee (NEW)

- management of parish finances by directing and providing continuous oversight of all financial activities, i.e. planning, budgeting, investing, accounting and reporting.
- stewardship of the church buildings and property through management of regular and ongoing maintenance tasks as well as through the prioritization and undertaking of larger projects. Identifying and responding to these activities typically leads to the researching, negotiating and overseeing of contracts, and seeking OMI approval, whenever required.

Continuing to encourage joint efforts among ministries. Recent examples:

- *prayer group facilitated a Saturday morning retreat for pastoral planning;*
- *sponsorship of two Syrian families has brought together many initiatives, an outpouring of support and incredible financial generosity from the whole parish.*

What is needed to sustain our Christian life?

*“For just as the body is one and has many members...
Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.”
- 1 Corinthians 12:12-27*



A living being needs to grow
 ❖ with God – spiritually
 ❖ with people – socially
 based on Luke 2:52 and Mark 12:29-31

**We need an integrated and balanced faith community.
A welcoming Oblate parish, living our faith in God.**