

# 2020 Annual Parish Report

## PASTORAL TEAM REPORT

With the uncertainty caused by the pandemic regarding restarting in-Church services, the pastoral team and many volunteers strived to provide consistent and ongoing virtual services namely: the Parish bulletin being sent out via email weekly; ongoing updates to the Parish Facebook page and website; the virtual quarterly *Epistle* newsletter; weekly Sunday Liturgy of the Word; weekly Evening Prayer Liturgy; weekly Christian Meditation and a weekly Lectio Divina & Meditation. All these weekly activities were presented via the Zoom platform. Also, various virtual events were created such as: a winter Genesis reading group in which Genesis was examined with a predominantly narrative outlook by two separate reading groups that transitioned to Zoom at the start of the pandemic; and a Zoom Introduction to the Bible course in the fall, both offered by Pierre Laviolette; as well as the virtual ministries of various committees described below.

The pastoral team thanks all the volunteers who helped make in-person Masses possible when they were allowed. Because of COVID restrictions, we needed and received help with registration, ushering and cleaning. Many hands made light work! Thank you for continuing to sign-up to help make our parish run smoothly.

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## PASTORAL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

The Pastoral Council for 2020 was comprised of the following parishioners: Angela Burton (Chair), Jordan Samaroo (Vice-Chair), Nicola Whitehouse (Secretary), Angela Davis, Mary Egan, Frank Hegyi, Chidinma Njoku and Patrick Zdunich.

Pastoral Council completed an updated and revised edition of the Pastoral Plan for 2020 – 2025. The journey to update and revise the plan began in 2019 with the intention of sharing it with Parishioners in spring 2020. A substantive change was introduced to the format of the plan to make it more user friendly and to place the goals and objectives of the plan at the forefront.

While the overall strategic objectives for our parish are expected to remain relatively consistent over a five-year period, planned initiatives are re-evaluated and refined on an annual basis. The updated plan also included greater recognition and emphasis on the collaborative nature of 'how things get done' in our parish, noting that committees and ministries often work together and often fulfill several objectives at once. In doing this, we create a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts and continue to grow in faith as the Body of Christ.

The March 11, 2020 declaration by the World Health Organization that COVID19 was a global pandemic, was a devastating disruption to the natural rhythm of our communal worship and the coordinated activities of Ministries and Committees, including Pastoral Council, within the Holy Canadian Martyrs Church community.

Normal functioning of the Pastoral Council was briefly interrupted after the announcement of the pandemic, however, we quickly pivoted to meeting via Zoom. Council focus was reoriented to supporting the Pastoral Team to cope with the pandemic, including support to develop the initial reopening plan for limited return to communal worship. Council continued to meet according to the regular schedule via Zoom despite the pandemic for the remainder of 2020 and into 2021.

Recognizing the devastating impact of the pandemic on our community's most vulnerable citizens, and considering the shutdown of Out of the Cold supper programs at St. Margaret Mary's and Southminster United Church, Pastoral Council undertook an initiative to explore if our parish could support other efforts to provide meals to those in need.

The 507 Sandwich Club resulted from these efforts. We learned that Centre 507 (507 Bank St.) had nothing but coffee to provide to clients accessing their services on Fridays. With the support of Council, a pilot program was launched to take a special collection and enlist volunteers to make sandwiches and deliver them to Centre 507 every Friday. To date, the program has delivered over 3200 nutritious sandwiches to Centre 507. We also used the Club's communications and logistics network to deliver desperately needed winter items (long underwear, hats, gloves, etc.) during the coldest weeks of winter.

Looking ahead to 2021, Council is welcoming two new parishioners to the team: Mary Dalipaj and Cheryl Khoury. Council will continue to focus on supporting the Pastoral Team during the ongoing pandemic as well as moving forward on the objectives in the Pastoral Plan, albeit in a limited manner due to public health restrictions.

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

This report contains a summary of the financial operations of the Parish as well as a listing of major projects undertaken on behalf of the Parish.

The financial report shows the final reviewed figures for 2020 compared to: the reviewed amounts from 2019; as well as to the amounts that were budgeted by the Committee for 2020 and then for 2021. The 2020 budget was set early in the year and purposely not revised post-pandemic. The 2021 budget reflects continued uncertainty related to the pandemic, however, much was learned during in 2020 concerning the ability of our parishioners to maintain their general and generous support. Pie charts for the receipts and disbursements are included at the end of this report.

<b>SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR CHURCH OPERATIONS</b>				
	2021	2020	2020	2019
	Budget	Budget	Actual	Actual
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Collections	\$214,700	\$204,200	\$226,083	\$216,198
Marriages, Funerals and Masses	2,500	4,000	3,865	6,830
One-time donations and bequests	20,000	40,000	12,811	70,802
Interest	19,100	22,600	20,517	19,901
Other revenue	13,500	15,800	12,074	16,825
	269,800	286,600	275,351	330,556
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>				
Salaries	139,000	139,000	129,444	143,514
Parish Centre and Church	85,500	87,100	92,296	88,761
Liturgical	14,500	17,000	4,844	12,911
Communal	2,500	5,000	1,517	3,196
Council Outreach	5,700	6,200	6,030	6,700
Oblate Administration Tax	30,000	32,300	30,916	37,799
	277,200	286,600	265,047	292,881
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$(7,400)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$10,304</b>	<b>\$37,675</b>

Our total Outreach includes the amount in the summary above as Council Outreach, but most is funded directly by parishioners through their giving to special ordered collections including the Poor and Needy envelopes, and donations to the Poor Box. The only portion that shows under the financial statements is that part which is funded by interest received from our investment funds and distributed to causes selected by the Parish Pastoral Council. The rest is neither included as revenue, nor as disbursements for the Canadian Martyrs financial operations.

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## OUTREACH

### (Poor & Needy Envelopes, Poor Box and Reserve Funds)

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Parishioner's Outreach	\$ 700	\$ 500
Poor at the Door	1,280	1,242
St. Brigid's Camp	-	350
Shepherds of Good Hope	950	1,000
Miriam Centre	710	1,000
Youville Centre	300	300
Centretown Emergency Food Bank	750	800
Jericho Road Ministries	540	600
Centretown Churches Social Action Committee	1,000	1,650
Carty House	450	500
Multifaith Housing	1,260	1,500
Archbishop Dinner		200
L'Arche Ottawa	900	1,000
Waupoos Family Farm	450	500
Birthright of Ottawa	900	1,000
Hospice Care Ottawa	900	1,000
Immaculata High School - Chaplain's Fund	1,000	1,000
Ottawa Mission - Catering - Funeral		445
Ottawa Missions	700	700
St. Joe's Supper Table - Fundraising		495
Catholic Missions in Canada		100
	\$ 12,790	\$ 15,882

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<b>ORDERED COLLECTIONS</b>		
<b>(Envelopes and Special Collections)</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Holy Land	\$ 425	\$ 1,283
Development and Peace	735	2,515
Diocesan Missions	757	545
Campaign Life (Christmas Cakes)	800	1,277
Vocations	655	650
Pastoral Works	600	615
Oblate Missions	1,606	1,380
Needs of Canadian Church <sup>1</sup>		880
Evangelization of Nations <sup>2</sup>		480
Share Life	800	317
Calendar Sales		110
CCSAC Walk for the Centre	490	100
St. Vincent de Paul	195	-
	\$ 6,263	\$ 9,835

Notes: 1) Outreach support sent to Oblate Missions for 2020.

2) Outreach amount sent in January of 2021, and will be reflected in next year's reporting.

<b>TOTAL OUTREACH</b>	\$ 19,053	\$ 25,717
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In addition to our finances, the Committee is also responsible for the maintenance and general upkeep of the Church and Parish Centre building and grounds. As with any home, significant repairs and improvements need to be done through the course of the year. A description of notable projects completed in 2020 and a brief look at expected projects for 2021 follow on the next page and round out the material included in this report.

## *Special Thanks*

Though they are helped in their volunteer duties by the other members of the committee and by our supportive Pastoral Team, we must recognize both the steadfast commitment of John McCauley in leading our maintenance projects, and the valuable guidance and work done by Vince Marsh and now by Christina Ullett (following Vince's deserved retirement from our committee).

## Notable Projects Completed in 2020

Kitchen upgrades: Waitt Construction completed the installation of new kitchen cabinets, countertop, and dishwasher - along with electrical and plumbing upgrades.

Front of the church: sealer was applied to both concrete staircases along Main Street by Chevrier Concrete, and the front sign paint touch-up was done by Northern Sign Works.

Painting the inside of the church: Jan Bohus painted the walls of the church to a height of 16', radiators, and window frames. The Marian shrine, music alcove, and choir loft also received a new coat of paint.

Exterior church doors: Jan Bohus painted the doors of the four exterior church entrances. The front doors of the church were stripped and stained.

Church basement sump pumps: When the sump pumps in the church basement failed, the basement was pumped out by Aqua Drain Sewer services and the sump pumps were replaced by Mannion Plumbing.

Outdoor water tap: Exterior southside tap was relocated west from its original location behind the shed, which had been difficult to access.

Hot water in parish centre: We bought a new, smaller hot water tank that Manion Plumbing installed to replace the old, rented tank. The hot water had never reached all of the parish centre building and this issue worsened when the tank was replaced. Ted's Plumbing and Heating finally resolved the issue by consulting our ancient blueprints and plugging some redundant pipes.

Repair leak in pipe in church basement: a slow leak in a church boiler pipe was repaired by Tourangeau Mechanical/Plumbing, which also provided an estimate for future backflow repair as required by the City of Ottawa

Sacristy roof: This flat roof was replaced by Magnum Roofing and the light there for the stained glass window was replaced by Father Tim with a light fixture repurposed from the Springhurst Residence parking lot (where it had been judged too bright).

## Notable Projects Planned for 2021

Repairs to pews and kneelers in Church

Installation of new lighting and fan for Church

Repair windows in the stairwells in the Church

Wheelchair door, ramp, deck alteration and landscaping

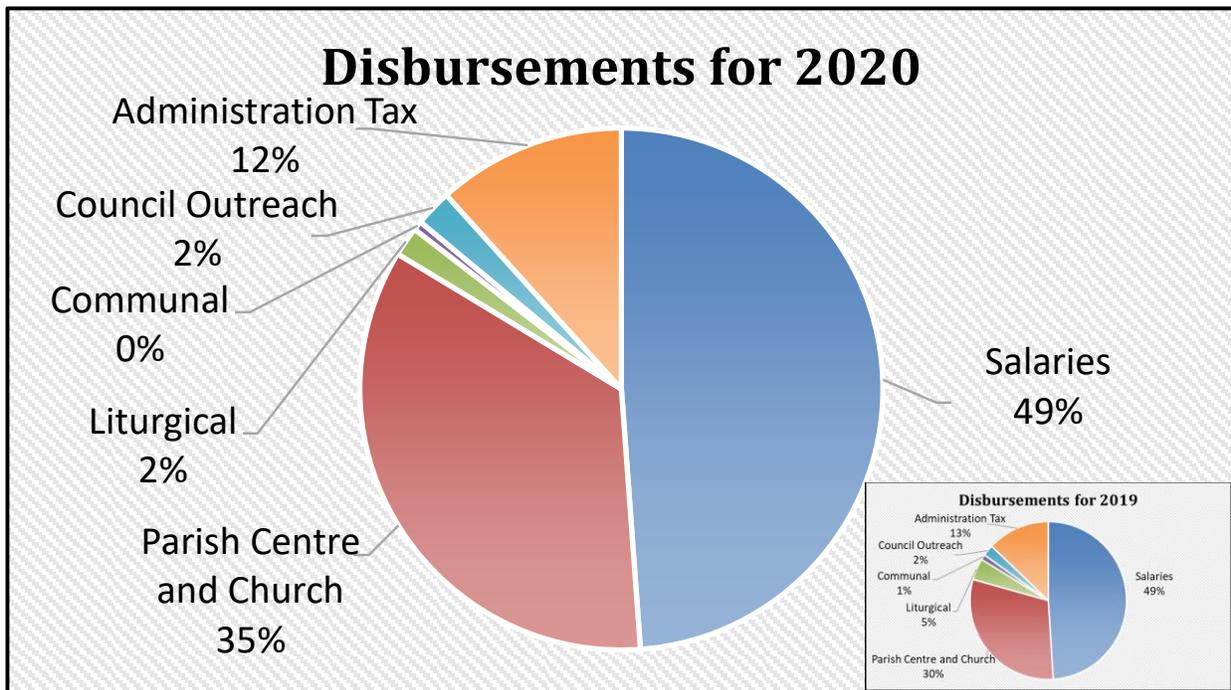
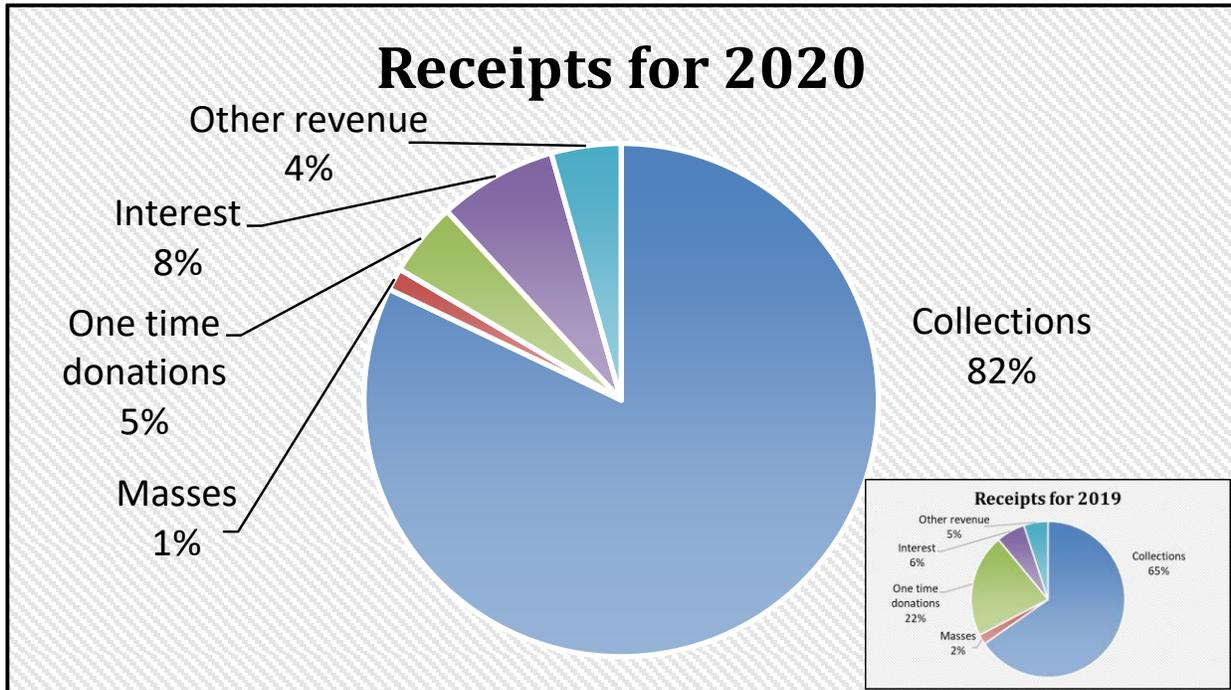
Improve or add illumination for the signs at the front of the Church, and over the front doors.

Pest control: block/repair holes that the mice are using to gain access to the Parish Centre

Repair of rotting threshold of sliding door in NW room on the main floor of Parish Centre.

Replace Carpet in Parish Centre offices and meeting rooms with vinyl or laminate flooring

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## DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE – CARITAS CANADA

Through the Catholic organization of Development and Peace - Caritas Canada, bishops, clergy, persons in consecrated life and laity work with grassroots organizations and social movements in the Global South. We support partners who show energy, creativity and ability to address the needs of their community as they deal with unjust social, political and economic structures. These partners in turn teach us to recognize the root causes of poverty and injustice, and mobilize us towards actions for change. As well, when needs arise, D&P responds to emergencies with humanitarian aid.

Inspired by *Laudato Si'*, the 2019-2020 campaign For Our Common Home, focused on our deep connection to each other and our earth. Having learned of the Mura and Seringueiros in Brazil and their struggle to protect the Amazon from destruction, the focus of Share Lent was to learn about the partners in Brazil and Peru who support these and other Indigenous communities in Amazonia. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent church closures, the campaign was forced to go online and the annual collection did not happen and the campaign was forced to go online. One such webinar From Canada with Love to the Defenders of the Amazon connected us with those who brave poverty and the pandemic to resist social and ecological injustice. Letters of solidarity signed by 66,000 Canadians including our parishioners were delivered virtually to our partners. Stories were shared by D&P staff, partners and church leaders from Amazonia. We connected.

The COVID-19 pandemic has put our one human family in crisis and laid bare the deep inequalities that exist. The Fall Campaign, Recovering Together, was in response to Pope Francis' call for a green and just recovery. The situations of several partners in various countries were presented. Following Catholic social teachings, we responded by helping define Six Principles for a Just Recovery and joined other faith groups in the new initiative For the Love of Creation, calling for climate action, indigenous rights and global solidarity. A special collection was taken up on November 15 for the Global South.

Through a talk, a media presentation and bulletin announcements, parishioners were kept informed of webinars and the work of D&P and were encouraged to engage. It was only through the amazing support of Fr. Tim Coonen, Maureen Cerroni, and Heather Duggan that this was possible. For this and the generous donations of parishioners we are so grateful. Evelyn Kelly stepped aside as chair of this committee after many years of dedicated commitment to the vision and work of D&P. For this we sincerely thank her.

We look forward to the day that every family at CMP becomes an informed and active member of D&P which has been called by Archbishop Emeritus Terrence Prendergast "the jewel of social justice service to the Global South".

Submitted by Anna Dorner

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## FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE

The aim of the Faith Formation Committee is to plan events and sessions that will help parishioners to grow in their faith. These include topics that are religious in and of themselves as well as those that directly impact our faith, for example aboriginal issues, or issues related to the care of the Earth.

The links to the pastoral plan are:

- Learning about our faith, and
- Bringing our faith into the world.

In 2020\*:

- Lunch and Learn: 2 sessions – In January, Fr. Hassina, chaplain to the Malagasy Community, made a presentation on the Malagasy Community and the connection of its life of faith to Canadian Martyrs parish. In February, Joe Gunn, the recently appointed director of Centre Oblat, spoke to us about Centre Oblat and the Synod on the Amazon. Many thanks to all those who prepared and helped to serve the lunch for the Lunch and Learn series.
- Starting on January 28, Pierre LaViolette led a discussion group study on the book of Genesis. Approximately 10 people signed up for the series. The group met for 90 minutes on 8 Tuesday afternoons. When meeting in person was no longer possible, the group continued online via Zoom.
- On Monday, February 24, the parish partnered with St. Paul University to show the film, “The Francis Impact”. The film was made by Salt and Light Television and the film’s director was present to comment on the making of the film and to answer questions. The evening was a success and was very well attended by parishioners, St. Paul University students and other people from the community. The parish offered the director an honorarium to thank him for coming and the cost of accommodation and of the flight from New York were covered by Centre Oblat.
- On the afternoon of February 29, Fr. Richard Beaudette OMI facilitated a parish day of recollection on what it means to be a Christian and the implications for us of our belief in Christ. This afternoon of reflection was followed by 5 p.m. mass.
- The Bible study group did not meet in 2020.

\*Because of the Covid-19 pandemic which made group meetings impossible, the following report only covers events that occurred before lockdown measures were put in place, that is, essentially, those in January and February.

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy Wood, March 8, 2021.

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## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The communications committee's aim is to help the various ministries spread the word to parishioners and the broader community about what is happening in the parish. Connections to the pastoral plan include these:

- Bringing our Faith into the World: to share the good news of our faith in God's love with our neighbours
- Stewardship and Leadership: fostering communication – weekly bulletin, articles in the Epistle, parish website

But of course, 2020 was a year when a lot of parish activities were put on pause, which meant the committee was less active than usual. Here is a summary of what was done:

### 1. Communications guidelines for committees

– To help committees plan their internal and external communications needs, Greg Gertz created some guidelines. The committee reviewed the guidelines, then they were shared with the parish life coordinator. Once parish life gets back to a more normal level of activities, the guidelines will be very helpful.

### 2. The Epistle

– We published four issues in 2020, featuring an interesting variety of articles by members of the parish and other contributors. To encourage more input from the broader parish community, we did a survey (following Heather Duggan's excellent suggestion) for parishioners to respond to about Advent. We received many responses, and this venture was a success. Several issues of the Epistle were digital: a link to the pdf was sent by email to parishioners. A small number of copies were printed for the pastoral care ministry to give to parishioners living in retirement homes and long-term care, which recipients greatly appreciated.

### 3. The parish website

– Heather Duggan updates the content on the website periodically. The committee and Heather will continue to review the website and revise it as needed.

### 4. The Mainstreeter newspaper

– The parish advertised in each issue in 2020 (6 issues) to let our neighbours know that we are here.

The committee would like to thank Heather Duggan for her support and creative help in the area of communications. We look forward to a more typical year of communicating in 2021!

Submitted by Sheila Foy-Connolly and Anne Louise Mahoney, co-chairs, communications committee

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## MINISTRY OF MASS COORDINATOR

The Ministry of Mass Coordinator consists of a group of volunteers trained to coordinate Saturday and Sunday Masses. This ministry is led by our Parish Life Coordinator Maureen Cerroni who administers training and guidance to the Mass Coordinators. To date, there are seven trained ministers in this ministry. During 2020, we condensed to a core group of experienced ministers until restrictions on gatherings are lifted.

### Training:

Training consists of the volunteer shadowing an experienced Mass Coordinator at several Saturday/Sunday Masses to learn the duties of coordinating the Mass.

### Goal:

Have 2 Mass Coordinators for each Mass (especially Sundays) so that the team does not run short of experienced volunteers and to provide backup when coordinators are away.

### Duties of Mass Coordinator:

Unlock of Church and Breezeway entry doors

Ensure mics are available for the priest, at the Ambo, and on stand beside choir

Preparation of Credence Table and Gift Table (not during pandemic)

Have Lectionary and Book of the Gospels opened to Readings for Mass (during pandemic, no Book of the Gospels; only Lectionary set up on Ambo)

Oversee that lay ministers are available such as Presider's Assistant, Readers, Extra Ordinary Ministers of Communion, Collectors, Parishioners to bring up the gifts (during pandemic the only lay minister is one Lector; there is no bringing up of the gifts.)

Turn on lights as required.

Do an attendance count during the readings and adjust number of hosts accordingly; note attendance, # of hosts and amount of wine poured in Communications Book (during pandemic place counted hosts on altar with small amount of wine for priest only)

After Mass, try to note in Communications book if hosts/wine were sufficient or not (omit during pandemic)

Ensure collection is securely stored in safe (during pandemic the Registrar secures collection)

At end of Mass: Turn off all lights, extinguish all candles, return mics to their storage location, and lock all entry doors to Church and Breezeway

Be a presence to parishioners especially those requesting information or in need (during pandemic direct person to the registrar for help)

Oversee tables of seasonal sale items; put cash in safe afterwards (no sales during pandemic)

Resource: Mass Coordinator Checklist (version 10 Dec 2019)

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## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION TEAM

The Sacramental Preparation Team exists to prepare children in the parish for the sacraments of First Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation. In January and February 2020, the four team members, Fr Tim Coonen OMI, Maureen Cerroni, Magda Kubasiewicz and Pat LaViolette prepared our candidates for Confirmation. When Covid occurred in March, no preparation sessions were held in the church. In the fall, Maureen moved the programs to a Zoom format.

The First Eucharist resources were adapted into 5 weekly zoom sessions and one in-church preparation session, each 30-45 minutes. Starting in October Maureen and Jane Staples, led 4 zoom classes per week: 7 pm Wednesdays & Thursdays; 10 & 11 am Saturdays.

In keeping with the Pastoral Plan – Learning About Our Faith, the Parish Life Coordinator and volunteers will continue to prepare children for the sacraments of First Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation on Zoom or in person following diocesan guidelines.

### Preparation for Sacraments:

The program begins with a meeting with the parents of children who are preparing for the sacraments of First Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation.

1st Eucharist preparation consists of six (1 hour) sessions in which parents and children attend together in the church; or 30-45 minute sessions on Zoom if gathering in person is restricted.

Reconciliation consists of five (1 hour) sessions attended by parents and children in the church or 30-45 minute sessions on Zoom.

Confirmation includes six (1.5 hour) sessions attended by parents and children in the church or 45-minute sessions on Zoom.

### Resources:

1st Eucharist - Come Join Us at the Table (Muriel Loftus & Lawrence DeMong, OSB)

Reconciliation -We Prepare for Reconciliation (Berube & Berube)

Confirmation - Alive in The Spirit – (Catherine Ecker & Margaret Bick)

Resources used in the sacramental preparation of children are recommended by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. Parents pay \$25 to cover expenses.

### Participation:

Confirmation: 11 youth prepared in Jan-Feb and were confirmed Nov 29/2020 by Fr. Tim Coonen

Apostolic Activity: limited to immediate family contacts due to Covid restrictions

Reconciliation: Program pushed forward to 2021 with 8 children participating; Parish Advent Reconciliation Service attended by families in Sacramental Preparation Dec 16/2020

1st Eucharist: 18 children prepared In Oct-Nov & received 1st Eucharist (Nov/2020)

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## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

### Introduction

The work of the Children's Liturgy team provides the opportunity for the children of the parish community to engage in full and active participation in the celebration of the Liturgy of the Word. Through preparation and reflection, using the Sunday Liturgy Series, the children are called to celebrate the liturgy in a unique sacred space with leaders, in language appropriate for their comprehension. About three Sundays of each month are dedicated to Children's Liturgy followed by Community Masses. The objectives of the Children's Liturgy program are to foster, motivate and support a deeper understanding and expression of faith (Canadian Martyrs Pastoral Plan). Feedback from parents, and the larger community is encouraged to ensure their suggestions, support and concerns are heard and addressed, if possible. Any potential improvements or modifications to our process are welcome. This report covers Children's Liturgy of the Word as it occurs throughout the duration of the school year (from early September to mid-June 2019/2020).

#### •Fall and Winter 2019:

Fall is about reawakening the desire to celebrate as a group and to experience reflection on, and discussion of, God's Word. We reintroduce and incorporate the liturgical rituals such as: the sign of the cross; signing and response at introduction to the Gospel; responses to conclusion of prayers and scripture passages; and participating in the Responsorial Psalm and Gospel Acclamation. Reflection on and discussion of the readings takes participation and understanding to a deeper, more meaningful, level.

We continue to incorporate some elements that came out of the Children's Liturgy of the Word workshop that was presented by Heather Reid.

We added a new member to our leadership team in Miriam Berube.

The older youth once again introduced us to the eight Jesuit martyrs, for who the church is named, at their feast day at the end of September.

#### •Advent Year A, 2019:

Advent is the time of patience and waiting leading up to the great celebration. The Children's Liturgy readings during Advent prepare the children for the waiting and the magical sense of anticipation for the birth of Christ. They are completely immersed in the story and they have internalized it.

For the 2019 Advent Season, the Christmas pageant was presented at Epiphany, providing a simpler Christmas holiday for many of our families. The Advent Fair also provided an opportunity for the children's participation. Some enhancements in the Liturgical Environment, the lighting of the Advent candles and the singing of the Advent song by the Children's Choir continued to include our children in this important season.

For 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in March, during Lent, and a lock-down was put in place before Easter, meaning that there were no in-person Masses in the church. This also meant that the Children's Liturgy work was no longer possible as we had done it before. We started Children's Liturgy via Zoom at the end of April and had it every Sunday until Pentecost, May 31st. After Pentecost it morphed into Sunday Zoom Liturgy for everyone, with the fourth Sunday being Children's Liturgy...that has now morphed into family Liturgy of the Word once a month in 2021.

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We celebrated The Feast of Canadian Martyrs in the church with the readings of the feast day, but no participation from the children this year; instead, we focussed on the children's introduction of each of the martyrs on the Zoom Sunday Liturgy that week.

- Advent Year B, 2020:

There was a pageant presented at the Christmas Masses, in spite of the pandemic. It was a slide show of the Christmas story, compiled with a series of pictures sent in by the parish families of each of the key scenes. It portrayed the feast and amused us all, bringing joy to this special holiday during a pandemic.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the church was closed again on December 26, 2020. The Zoom Liturgy each week continued, and we began welcoming youth readers and youth reflections on a weekly basis, not just on the fourth Sunday of the month.

## Links to Pastoral Plan Objective

The work of the team is centered on providing an opportunity for the children of the parish to celebrate our faith in an expressive forum that allows them time to reflect on, and discuss, the scripture passages in age-appropriate language.

- Liturgy of the Word is not catechism as in preparation of candidates for sacraments, or lesson-based activity; it is celebrating God's story through liturgy. In their own space, the children hear the scripture stories, discuss them, connect them to their lives and participate in rituals that unite us in our shared faith (expressing our faith in diverse ways).
- The children's liturgy readings are aligned with the readings of the Sunday Mass. The children are encouraged to reiterate the main events in the readings. Discussions are not meant to interpret the Word for the children but serve to elicit examples from them that relate to their own lived experiences. These discussions may lead the children to engage in further conversations with their parents about the readings especially if they need clarification (supporting a greater understanding of our faith).
- The rituals of the Mass are reinforced and shape the children's participation and responses in a manner consistent with that of the larger community. The inclusion of new elements in our process will develop a deeper understanding of the rituals of the Mass (expressing our faith in diverse ways).

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## PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

Like everyone, our Covid era continues to present this Ministry with daily challenges as it strives to meet the six goals and three core tasks which are outlined in our current Pastoral Plan for 2020-2025: namely, to bring communion and prayer to our parishioners especially to those who reside in a long term care residence, a retirement residence, or who live on their own; secondly, to find meaningful ways to share 'Parish News' and thirdly, to augment pastoral activities with all in the Parish communities.

The 'regular' sites include Villagia in the Glebe, Bruyere, Billingswood Manor, Billings Lodge, St. Patrick's Home, Oakpark, Grace Manor, Colonel By Residence, many private homes, and the area hospital sites although that has shifted and continues to vary with Covid protocols.

To these ends, a core group of commissioned pastoral workers and supporters have been able to sustain a regular connection with a core of forty plus members, associates, and their families especially since March 2020. The resumption of the weekly 4 pm Mass on Mondays at Villagia with Fr. Clyde S.J. has been deferred indefinitely although many residents are able and even co-watch the daily TV Mass. The daily TV Mass at St. Pat's is accessible to all residents and is augmented by home floor socially distance prayers and visits.

The delivery of a print copy of The Epistle with a print copy of a current Bulletin has been hand delivered to each Residence when a telephone call or an electronic device are not available or a timely method to share readily. The most reliable and welcomed means of outreach remain the personal note and telephone call. To this end the core Team averages fifteen calls/connections weekly. Special occasions, deaths, birthdays, and anniversaries are acknowledged with a card so alerting the Office to this activity is appreciated. More than 18 small Christmas gift bags were prepared and personally delivered to the residences where such were permitted given December guidelines. Over 35 Christmas and Valentines cards were mailed, delivered, and appreciated.

Members of this Ministry continue with their own prayer and special supports such as the sharing of resources from Family Councils Ontario, the Council on Aging of Ottawa, the Champlain Hospice Palliative Care Program which offer many Zoom and Web presentations like the Thursday Evening Series offered by the Bruyere Continuing Care. These practices are timely for our unknown pandemic times and nurture us all. Thank you to all parishioners who contribute directly and indirectly to this on-going Ministry.

Respectfully submitted, Rosemarie Hoey, Co-ordinator.

"...Caring is the privilege of every person and is at the heart of being human. ..." Henri Nouwen