

Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

May 9, 2024

Attendance in-person: Peter Brimacombe, Matthew Iwueze, Grace Bruno, Heather Duggan,

Tim Coonen, Matilda Owolagba, Joseph Duggan (chair, finance council)

Regrets: Sheila Foy-Connolly, Chad Glendinning

1. Prayer read by everyone.

2. Minutes approved by email as we did not have quorum at the start of the meeting.

3. Agenda approved by everyone with addition of 5.6 Annual Parish Meeting: time and format

4. New Business

4.1 Report from Finance Council

Joseph Duggan, chair of Finance Council, gave an advance presentation of the parish finances for 2023. The content of the full report will be included in the Annual Parish Report, available here (hyperlink) and further discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting. The notes that follow below summarize the main points of the discussion in Council and not the report itself.

The figures are reviewed annually by an outside accounting firm, Marcil Lavallee. This is the 3rd consecutive year of reviews (a full audit is not necessary each year).

Joseph noted, and Father Tim stressed, how fortunate we are to have Christina Ullett as our volunteer accountant and member of the Finance Council. On the topic of membership, it was clarified that Chad Glendinning is the PPC liaison to the Finance Council.

As an Oblate parish, we direct 13 % of our collection revenue to St. Peter's Province of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate instead of to the archdiocese as diocesan parishes would.

As the financial report covers the operating accounts of the parish, only interest from parish investments, and not the investments, are shown in the report. These investment accounts are primarily from a former fundraising campaign and from a bequest by the Tobin estate (the principal portion of which was left to the parish specifically for repairs and capital improvements).

Our investment funds are entrusted with OMI Lacombe Canada (our parent organization), from whom we receive 4 % interest annually. Half of the annual interest from the Tobin estate funds has been allocated for outreach for several years now. PPC is responsible for selecting which organizations receive financial help via this outreach.

5. New Business

5.1 Reaching out to Committees/Ministries **Action item:** Grace will email PPC members asking them to visit or chat with someone from several committees.

5.2 Constitution **Action item:** Heather and Grace will look at the constitution this summer and make some corrections.

5.3 Pastoral Plan Update for 2025-2030: tabled to next meeting

5.4 Mass on Grass. **Action item:** Grace will email PPC members to commit to this date, June 16, 2024 (Father's Day). Mass coordinators and liturgy committee will meet to plan the liturgy.

5.5 Parishioners welcome at PPC meetings: members of the parish may attend meetings of the PPC as observers. If they wish to present something to the PPC they should ask permission from the chair of PPC. However, for exceptional reasons, the pastor or the Council may request an in camera session, to close the meeting to all except members of Council and the pastoral team. The decision to proceed in camera is agreed upon by consensus, or by an absolute majority vote (i.e. 50% +1) of the members present.

5.6 Annual report/ annual parish meeting. The annual parish report will be distributed by email and paper copies will be available on the Welcome Table in late May. It was decided that the Annual Parish Meeting will be on Sunday, June 23 after Mass from 11:30-12:30. For the Annual Parish Meeting, Heather suggests the Finance Council gives a report on the finances for 2023 (with questions afterwards) and then there will be Q&A where parishioners can ask questions to any committee/ministry that is represented at the meeting as parishioners will have already received the Annual Parish Report. Each committee/ministry will be asked to have a member available at the meeting for Q&A.

6. Pastoral Team Report

Matilda reported on the Catholic Education Week Mass for Immaculata grades 7 and 8 students which happened today; the Immaculata choir sang and were well received.

Parishioners enjoyed the 'string group' and youth-led service on April 21.

Monthly Youth Masses on Sunday nights are very meaningful.

Red Dress Day celebration led by Truth and Reconciliation committee was also meaningful.

Lunch and Learn with Dr. Mariele Wulf was well attended and can be watched on our Canadian Martyrs' YouTube channel.

Zoom Sunday liturgy is still very meaningful for parishioners who cannot attend Mass in person.

Lunch and Learn with a yoga teacher from Pathway Yoga will happen on Sunday, May 26.

The *Laudato Si'* group met on April 30 to discuss how the activities of different committees in the parish are impacting care of creation. Matilda suggested that a PPC member attend this meeting as it is an opportunity to learn what all the committees are doing.

Matilda attended the AGM of Centertown Churches Social Action Committee. Parishioner Allison Dingle was also there; she is the chair of the management committee at the Centretown Community Food Centre. Housing was also discussed. There are double the number of people visiting food banks in 2024.

Weekday Masses and weekend Masses are running well with Mass coordinators. We are receiving communion from the cup again; it is going well.

Sunday, June 2nd Mass led by the Kateri Native ministry who celebrate Mass at St Basil's church. Fr. Erik Sorenson will preside and there will be a Lunch and Learn following Mass. This event is being organized by the Truth and Reconciliation Committee with support from the Liturgy Committee.

Heather proposed inviting committees/ministries to give a presentation at a Lunch and Learn so that parishioners are introduced to what each committee/ministry does in the parish. She and Matilda will discuss other ways to make our committees and ministries more visible to parishioners.

7. Other

8. Next meeting June 6 at 7pm.

We would like a volunteer for the opening prayer and a volunteer to bring a snack.