

St. John the Evangelist Parish

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL - Minutes

Fr. Michael Williams – Pastor – ex officio	James Murphy – St. John’s
Myron McCormick – Finance – ex officio	Sheila Lapierre – St. John’s
Marie Bardswich – St. John’s	Murielle Denis – St. John’s
Sue Quackenbush – St. John’s	Trudy Hinds – St. Bernardine’s ABSENT
Pamela Schofield-Adams – St. John’s	John Robert – St. Bernardine’s

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, April 8th at 6pm in the Parish Hall.

PRAYER We prayed an Easter Litany together, as we are meeting during the Easter Octave.

Following this, the PPC met to discuss the following pastoral issues:

OLD BUSINESS:

- (1) Parish Spring Events – Parish Breakfast by Sonya Arcand; Parish BBQ by Knights of Columbus
- (2) Appreciation Dinner – A review
- (3) Divine Mercy (Candle) Donations – Skead
- (4) Direct parish mail out - Skead
- (5) Parking lot - Skead
- (6) Soup Supper and St. Joseph’s Chili Dinner – A review

NEW BUSINESS:

- (7) Broken window – options for repair/replacement
- (8) Radon test results

ONGOING BUSINESS:

- (9) Social Concerns, Worship, Future Planning, Youth, Pastoral Care, Faith Formation & Spirituality, Evangelization
- (10) Parish Financial Update

Re: (1) Sonya Arcand will provide a Parish breakfast following the morning Mass on the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord (May 17th). It is the long weekend, but she was trying to find a date about halfway between the CWL breakfast on April 26th and the Knights of Columbus BBQ in June. We still don’t have a date for the K. of C. BBQ, but John will inquire about that at their meeting next Monday.

Re: (2) All the feedback was positive, with no recommendations for improvements.

Re: (3) John indicated that all the money received as donations for the burning of vigil candles at St. Bernardine's will now be donated to the Garson Foodbank.

Re: (4) To date, there are no obvious results from the mailout. It may take more time before results, if any, become apparent. Based on that, it's too early to say if it is an effort worth repeating.

Re: (5) The parking lot is a pending project contingent on warmer weather. For now, the main issue is the leaking roof. John is looking into various options for addressing this ongoing problem, and has a consultative group to help him find solutions.

Re: (6) Everyone was positive in their reviews of these two events, and supportive of repeating them next year. Fr. Michael expressed gratitude to everyone who donated the various soups and chili, and indicated that \$771.95 was donated through these events, which in turn has been donated to the Garson Foodbank. Turnout to all seven events varied between 12 – 18 people.

Re: (7) A range of options, from repair to replacement, were floated for the multiple window panes broken due to ice falling from the roof this winter. Fr. Michael will consult with a window contractor to determine the cost and appropriateness of each option. Primarily, he was concerned that the colored panes were not a necessity, and could be replaced with clear glass, if that was determined to be the best solution. Nobody had a problem with that. Once repaired, Fr. Michael will look into having a barrier installed to prevent the falling ice in the future from breaking the window. It was noted that this is a new problem resulting from the heat trace wire installed a few years ago as a means of preventing ongoing water leakage into the building. While we no longer have any leaks there, we do have icicles which are rather large.

Re: (8) The radon test results have been received, and are well below the recommended levels for safety. The hall averaged 54 (+/- 6) Bq/m³ and the rectory (bedroom level) averaged 20 (+/-3) Bq/m³. Health Canada sets a maximum limit of 200 Bq/m³, and the World Health Organization sets a maximum limit of 100 Bq/m³, so we are well below those levels. No further action needed.

Re: (9) There were no issues raised under any of these categories at this meeting.

Re: (10) Myron distributed a spreadsheet showing the Parish financials for the first quarter of this year. Once the Share Lent money is distributed, we are essentially balanced. It is noted that the snow removal costs this year will be somewhat higher than budgeted, for obvious reasons. Since our last meeting, the Finance Committee decided to deposit another \$40,000 with the Parish Assistance Fund, bringing our total deposit there to almost \$367,000.00. Fr. Michael explained how this fund functions in the Diocese, as a way for parishes in need of loans for capital projects to receive them at a rate lower than is possible through a financial institution. There were no concerns raised regarding the parish financials.

Our meeting ended with a prayer, led by Fr. Michael, at 6:55pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, June 10th at 6pm in the Parish Hall.