

## Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

October 14, 2015

**Present:** Fr. Ray, Eileen Bowes, Peg Bush, Allison Cyganowski, Bruce Denner, Rosemarie Dykeman, Jacques Gagnon, Sandy Hogan, Sue O'Malley, Sandy Zielie

**Absent:** Jane Brihan, Deacon Chris Everhart, Ludwig Heil, John Sullivan, Fatima Walsh

*I. Opening Prayer* – Father Ray

*II. New Business:* This was the first meeting on the newly formed Pastoral Council. The following topics were discussed:

- **Membership:**

Regular members: Peg Bush, Allison Cyganowski, Bruce Denner, Jacques Gagnon, Ludwig Heil, Sandy Hogan, Sue O'Malley, and John Sullivan

Ex-officio: Rosemarie Dykeman (finance council), Sandy Zielie (development)

Staff: Fr. Ray, Eileen Bowes, Jane Brihan, Deacon Chris Everhart, Fatima Walsh

- **Goal and structure of the Council:** Members discussed what the role of the Council is. The primary purpose is to support the mission of the parish in helping to bring people to Christ. We discussed our role vis-à-vis parish ministries as liaison to Fr. Ray, assessing whether ministries are true to the parish mission, and providing guidance and support and reinforcement for the mission. Bruce spoke about possible structures for the council including a hierarchical model or a more circular collaborative model. Eileen offered the diocesan paradigm “The Seven Essential Elements of Parish Life”. Sandy Z expressed concern that we not spend too much time and effort developing a model as there are many effective models already in existence. It was agreed that the members will circulate 3 possible models identified by the previous council in the spring and members should come prepared to discuss and define our model at the next meeting.
- **Role of Council Members:** Members discussed reviewing our current list and categorizing of ministries and come prepared to discuss how to assign members as ministry contacts at our next meeting. We discussed possibly having 1 member per ministry category be responsible for reporting back to the Council at meetings to streamline reporting.
- **Challenges:** Members expressed concern that sometimes ministries become so independent and territorial that they don't want to share what they are doing and are resistant to contact and support from parish representatives. Fr. Ray et al stated that all ministries need to be focused on the parish mission and be willing to collaborate. Bruce cautioned the members to avoid forming our own coalitions by inadvertently excluding people from communications via too many personal e-mails etc. Increased communication and collaboration will hopefully

improve cohesion among all ministries, eliminate duplication of efforts, and ultimately advance our parish mission of sharing the love of Christ.

**III. Action Plan: Immediate tasks before next meeting:**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Member responsible</b>
<b>Obtain 3 possible council designs and send to all members</b>	<b>Bruce</b>
<b>Send Ludwig's PP to Bruce</b>	<b>Sandy H</b>
<b>Prepare agenda for next meeting</b>	<b>Bruce</b>
<b>Study designs and be prepared to discuss at next meeting</b>	<b>All members</b>
<b>Study ministry lists and come prepared to discuss effective distribution of responsibilities</b>	<b>All members</b>
<b>Prepare meeting minutes</b>	<b>Sandy H</b>
<b>Notify members of next meeting</b>	<b>Bruce</b>

**IV. Next Meeting: Wednesday November 4<sup>th</sup>, 7PM**

**V. Closing Prayer: Rosemarie**