

St. Michael's Parish Pastoral Council Minutes Thursday January 18, 2018.

Present: Fr. Glen Ball, Parochial Vicar; Deacon Gaston Mabaya; Yana Adkinson, Pastoral Minister; Wayne Wolanski, Chairperson; Peter Valiquet, Past Chairperson; Dorothy Solomon, recording secretary; Lola Gualtieri; Lucia Lehman; Darlene MacKenzie; Marinette Laureano; Dan Yurkewich; Larry McKenzie.

Regrets: Fr. Murray Sample, Pastor; Syl Patry, Coordinator of Youth Ministry; Donna Thompson, Vice Chairperson; Mark Thompson, Financial Committee Representative.

Opening prayer and reflection: led by Fr. Glen and based on Sunday's Gospel from Mark.

Minutes from December 14, 2017: pending, waiting for updated version from Dorothy.

Business: On February 27, 2018 the Social Justice Committee will host a "Blanket Ceremony"; they have requested that two representatives from Parish Council attend. Wayne and Darlene will represent Parish Pastoral Council.

A team to consider long term offerings of future spiritual development programs consists of Darlene, Lola, Larry, Peter and Wayne. Some considerations already suggested include 'Oremus', 'Mary and the Scripture' series, 'Priest, Prophet and King' series, 'Bible Study', 'Women of Grace'. Wayne will consult with Fr. Murray.

There are six candidates to be interviewed for the position of custodian/hall coordinator.

The heating unit in the hall is malfunctioning and is being investigated.

The washroom renovations are completed.

Financial Report: budget had adjustments made and the proposed budget is to be presented by the end of February

Celebrations: Everyone's experience of the Christmas Masses was most positive. Comments ranged from: "Great to see so many people and families." "At the 4:30 Mass I was overwhelmed with every voice singing 'O Come All Ye Faithful'; all the faithful were there for Christmas Mass."

The 10:30 Sunday Mass continues to have a flood of children attending the "Liturgy of the Word" for grades 2, 3, & 4; and Sunday School for age 3 to grade 1 with many thanks to the parent cooperative leadership. These programs operate throughout the year. St. Michael's is the only known Parish to offer these programs for children in the summer.

EDGE youth group for grade 5 to 7 students continues to expand with not only students but parents staying to participate. Michael Theriault led those present in the "Divine Mercy Chaplet" which many had not experienced before. Two women asked to join the volunteer team.

The "Women of Grace" study series commenced on Tuesday following the noon Mass. This will continue to be offered on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.

Challenges: To ensure that we are offering in depth programs to build faith and for evangelization; programs that are more spiritually relational and intellectual; not just for the sake of having programs.

Upcoming Events:

The 6th Annual Men of Faith Conference will be held at St. Michael's on Saturday January 20, 2018 with guest speaker Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers.

The K. of C. and the C.W.L. will host an evening social on February 3, 2018 including dinner, silent auction and DJ.

The C.W.L. Installation of Central Committee will take place on February 5, 2018. All women of the parish are welcome regardless if they are members or not.

Lent is starting on Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018, and the C.W.L. will have prayer request cards with crosses available which individuals can take home and pray for the intentions. At each Mass during Lent these requests will be remembered also. There will be an additional 12:00 Mass on Mondays during Lent.

The Refugee committee will host a fundraising elimination euchre & bridge tournament including dinner and social on February 17, 2018. The theme is the colours of the Myanmar flag of yellow, red and green to enlist support for a sponsor family from Myanmar.

St. Justin's Parish is hosting a retreat day on February 24, 2018, for individuals fifty plus to explore what adventures God may be calling you to.

The Social Justice Committee is hosting a "Blanket Ceremony" on February 27, 2018

Pastoral Team Reports:

Yana:

- Assisted with Christmas Masses. Released new Ministry Scheduler Pro schedule for January-March.
- Continued to support Children Ministries: Sunday School, Children's Liturgy and Babysitting as well as St. Michael's Mom's Group.

- Visited Grade 2 students in our feeder schools and started preparing them for their First Communion. Focused on the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.
- Prepared handouts, ordered and prepared “We Share in the Eucharist” books for all of the First Communion children. Send a reminder for First Communion Parent Meeting to all of the parents for children in Grade 2 in all of our feeder schools. Sacramental Preparation for First Communion for Children in Public Schools will begin in February.
- Planned and coordinated RCIA sessions. We had Fr. Glen as our guest-speaker, he taught “*Intro to Sacraments; Baptism, Eucharist*” and he did “*A Walk through the Mass*”. I taught “*the Sacrament of Reconciliation for Adults*”. We resumed “Breaking Open the Word” with RCIA candidates every Sunday at 10:30 Mass.
- Personally met with each of the older children and parents in Rite of Christian Initiation to make sure their questions and concerns were addressed and they were ready to continue their journey in faith and to receive Sacraments of Initiation. We had 8 Baptisms, 4 First Communions and 2 Professions of Faith on January 14 at 12:30pm Mass. All of the children in RCIC received a Rosary and a cross from our Parish and a missal (from the Knights of Columbus).
- Coordinated and scheduled another training session for new Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors. Added new volunteers to Ministry Scheduler Pro. New Eucharistic Ministers were commissioned on the weekend of January 14.
- Attended Deanery Meeting at Mary Immaculate Parish where we discussed upcoming events and “Families of Parishes.”

Sylvain: -confirmation preparation for students not in the Catholic School system continues for candidates. Dorothy Solomon has been a great help with preparation and small group discussion. The feedback has been positive from parents and students and they are engaging in discussion and sharing reflections based on the videos and talks presented.

-school visits continue after a short Christmas break

-assisted with all Christmas masses

-grade 8 students were invited to decorate the church for Christmas

-celebrated MTS Advent mass with the entire school in the church. I was invited to give a presentation for MTS Grade 8 parent night and had a full corporate display of our youth ministry with promo videos, music and promo materials.

-EDGE youth went Christmas carolling in the neighbourhood and then had a party for families

T shirts for leaders and youth are available for sale.

-Stations of the Cross involving youth has started. This year with Fr. Murray's insight and permission we are preparing the Passion with Pope Francis' view of Praying with the Stations. This provides an opportunity for students to listen to a station excerpt, reflect and share through the senses of mercy.

-we welcomed once again the FIAT team from St. Kateri for mass

-working behind the scenes to launch Lifeteen in February. We are also looking at the possibility of a Worship team. T shirts for leaders are available.

-providing daily updates on all our social media accounts providing articles, updates, prayers, memes, events, supporting our feeder schools and individual students.

-I have been asked to be on the Consultation PURELIFE FFI Team as an advisor.

Fr. Glen:

-officiated at ten Baptisms

-celebrated a school mass with St. Catherine of Sienna School

-gave a presentation to the R.C.I.A. candidates and catechumens

-co-facilitated the Bible study session; the numbers are increased once again from December

-attended an all day London Deanery meeting

Deacon Gaston:

-co-facilitated bible study

-attended Social Justice Committee meeting

-attended all day London Deanery meeting

Adjournment and Closing Prayer: Wayne adjourned the meeting at 8:50. Fr. Glen offered a closing prayer and blessing.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Thursday February 15, 2018.