

**ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE CHURCH  
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**JUNE 2008**

**7pm, Room D**

**Present:** Fr. Leo Byrne, Bob Barry, Ruth Brideau, David Caracciolo, Liz Dobbs, Chris Nicol, Maria Phillips, Mark Siemons, Bruno Gallinaro

**Regrets:** Luke McEachnie, Michael Drewniak

**1. Opening Prayer** – David

**2. Additions to Agenda** – See item #10: *Justice and Peace* – Father Leo Byrne

**3. Adoption of Minutes from 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008 Meeting** – Carried.

**↳ Luke to distribute PPC minutes from 24<sup>th</sup> April 2008 in September. Adoption of April minutes deferred until then.**

**4. Ministry Head's Meeting** – Bruno

- Bruno reported that attendance from the various ministries at the recent (14<sup>th</sup> May 2008) Ministry Head's meeting was lower than expected. Nevertheless, he was able to update some of the Ministry membership information. Notably, Michael Lazure takes over from Jane Palmer in the Pastoral Care Ministry, and the Women's Group is now headed by Lucy Ann Coppens.
- Bruno also reported that the monthly Ministry Spotlight is functioning well, with good responses and displays in the Parish Lobby from those ministries approached so far. The question of whether ministries spotlighted to date have noticed increased responses as a result was raised. Although these are still early days to fairly assess the impact of this communication activity, Bill Coppens from the Knights of Columbus noted some increased interest from a few parishioners, which he attributed to the Spotlight feature.
- Father Leo suggested the positive aspects of each ministry should be emphasized during these meetings as we work towards discussion of the Education Pillar for the coming year.

**5. Pastor's Report – Fr. Leo Byrne**

Father Leo reported on the following items:

- The document Mark distributed, and its use of the Winnipeg Diocese's Maintenance vs Mission table, reminded Father Leo that the PPC should spend at least 10 min discussing a scripture passage and/or prayer at each meeting. This would likely enhance the PPC's ability to ensure our work integrates the Gospel and present day needs.
- As per his recent homily, Father Leo suggested there is a need to reach out to the two-thirds of non-participating Catholics in our Parish community. It was suggested that using the internet to our advantage and establishing a Communications Committee would be valuable tools to assist in this endeavour, and help create a ripple effect.
- The Deanery initiative – "Eucharist and Hunger of the World" was held Wed June 18<sup>th</sup>. This event was very well attended by both parishioners and priests, and executed successfully.
- Approximately 900 bookmarks with the new focus on Education Pillar Activities were sent out to the schools in time for the Grade 8 graduations. Father Leo expressed his gratitude to Maria and Luke for their hard work in this regard.
- Father Leo also reported that there is a need for Faith/Religion for transitioning children and teens.

**BUSINESS ARISING**

**6. Communion Pillar – Chris and PPC**

- Chris asked the PPC for their thoughts on work done to date in regards to the Communion Pillar. After some discussion, the PPC noted some of the highlights of its efforts in this area included: the distribution of the Call to Action document and bookmarks; creation of the Ministry Coordinator position; the ongoing monthly Ministry Spotlight; as well as all the new community/communion centered events now occurring in the Parish. It was also noted that there are still, and always will be, works in progress that will continue to flourish and grow under this Pillar, such as creation of a Communications Committee.

**7. Movie Night**

- David reported on Michael's behalf that 2 families attended the Sat. 14<sup>th</sup> June movie night. The PPC will ask Michael for his thoughts on the matter at the next meeting.

**8. PPC Guidelines Document – Mark and PPC**

- Mark distributed revised copies of the PPC Guidelines document he created for discussion. This document will assist present and future Parish Pastoral Council members understand their role and responsibility in the context of St. Paul the Apostle Parish, and the Parish community. It is also envisaged that when completed, the format of this document may also be used as a framework model for the best practices for other parish pastoral councils and possibly other Parish Ministries.
- It was noted that PPC meetings should incorporate prayerful reflections. In this manner, passages of scripture and/or prayers could be selected that relate to a particular focus or issue central to a given PPC agenda; for example, the upcoming focus on the Education Pillar. In so doing, this may also encourage parishioners to more actively participate.
- After further discussion of the content and formatting, the PPC was very encouraged by Mark's considerable efforts on this document. Mark reported he would continue to work on the formatting of the document and invited any further suggestions and comments be sent to him in order that he might revise the document accordingly.

**↳ Mark will distribute a revised version of the document in advance of the September PPC meeting.**

**9. Parish Gathering – Chris**

- Due to time restrictions, the discussion of Parish Gathering details was deferred until September.

**↳ Chris said he would contact the Youth and Music Ministries, as well as Joyce Davies, to inquire about their willingness to participate similar to last year.**

**10. Justice and Peace – Father Leo**

- Father Leo reported members of a Parish in Nicaragua contacted him. They asked about the possibility of twinning with St. Paul the Apostle Parish to increase awareness of their situation. Father Leo will provide more details as they arise.
- Father Leo also reported that someone had requested a meeting in July to discuss and promote the issues of Christians Against Torture.

**11. Alpha – David**

- Due to time restrictions, this item was deferred until the next meeting.

**12. Education Pillar – PPC**

- Due to time restrictions, this item was deferred until the next meeting.

**13. Youth Ministry – Father Leo**

- It was reported that the last Youth Ministry meeting before the summer was held on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008. Father Leo added that he informed the Youth Ministry that he was encouraged by the huge impact they were having on the Parish, and encouraged them to continue their good work.

**14. Next meeting - Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2008 (Prayers led by Mark)**

**15. Closing Prayer – David**

**St. Paul the Apostle Church  
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
Minutes  
25th September, 2008  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Room D**

**Present:** Fr. Leo Byrne, Bob Barry, Luke McEachnie, Chris Nicol, Mike Drewniak, Ruth Brideau Mark Siemons, Maria Phillips, Liz Dobbs

**Regrets:** David Caracciolo

**1. Opening Prayer – Mark**

**2. Adoption of Minutes – Carried.**

**3. Pastors Report**

- There are nine meetings ahead of us. We need to focus on the work of a PPC which is to set goals, to provide vision and to clarify that vision as we move along. Nine meetings give us time to do our PPC work, but not time and energy to do the work we are NOT called to do.

- Ten years ago I went out in the parking lot with different people and said this is what I envision – when you come in the driveway and turn toward the side wall of the church this is what I would like you to see – a semi circular driveway with a welcoming church entrance, lots of glass for transparency with green plants showing life. Once inside a large welcoming gathering space with a large baptismal font as you enter the church proper.

- At that point I did not foresee the raised roof, the patio at the side or the rooms below off the patio that have been so important. But that was enough. The parishioners through private discussion and professional feasibility study did the rest. I had not intended an expansion – the feasibility study told us that they would not pay for it unless it was

bigger. The liturgical designer and the architect contributed their part to the vision.

- We did not lay the bricks or do the wiring or even make the architectural drawings.

- Now in September 2008, the beginning of this year I am taking you out in the parking lot. I have a vision but you need to input and tweak or more than tweak

- When I did this business of standing in the parking lot it had a history. One contractor who was not eventually part of the building had said, "A church is supposed to be welcoming isn't it and you come in a corner door"? Re the "old entrance" he said, "it looks like you are going in a closet".

- Thus this document "Call To Action" is like that person.

- We are standing in the parking lot and I am saying this is what I vision, specifically regarding the Pillar of Education.

- At the meeting of parish leaders last Wednesday I set two goals – to celebrate their ministry and to launch the Education Pillar.

- Re the first goal we had pizza and wine, pop and coffee and then shared in twos and threes what we found life giving about our ministry.

- Re the second I captured the passage in Matthew's Gospel about being a Disciple and an Apostle. We had sandals to represent discipleship and candle to represent apostleship. Matthew uses the word Apostle only once – when the disciples are being "sent out".

- Write on the back of the sandal what you need in education to be a Disciple.

- Write on the back of the candle what you need in education to be an Apostle.

- Every leader is expected to go back to their ministry/groups and as the year progresses use these images to identify and **act on** these "Educational Goals".

- The leaders are to encourage individual members of their ministries/groups to make sandals (work boots, runners, slippers) and candles to identify their "Educational Goals" to achieve discipleship and Apostleship. They are to bring a sandal and candle to each gathering and place it in a prominent place and encourage members to share their individual sandals and candles.

- This need not take a large part of the meeting but it does need to be a component of every gathering.

- Next year we create symbols for Service or Worship whichever we choose – maybe that will be the year for the work boot!

- I am planning two follow up strategies. I will meet with Ryan and Concetta to evaluate and plan for January 2009 meeting. Second I will send out letters to each leader asking them to follow up in their groups/ministries as described above.

#### **4. Parish Gathering**

To be held Wed November 19th, 2008 in the Parish Hall

- Chris contacted Joyce Davies to help coordinate the food and drink for the social portion of the event

- Peter Coughlin agreed to give a report on behalf of the Finance Committee

- The Music Ministry (Chris Forster) will be there (Musical celebration)

- Vicki Charboneau indicated that the Youth Ministry will also participate.

We need more advertising (word of mouth, flyers, bulletin and announcements from the alter).

In the next few weeks the PPC will use the schools, parent meetings at the schools and church to advertise.

Liz – Alpha should be apart of the PPC gathering now up to 60 members  
David was going to speak about this but was absent

#### **5. PPC Operating guidelines**

- Mike's document – Chris begins discussion by stating it is a great document especially with Archbishop speaking November 1, 2008

- There was some discussion about the How of the document and Mike outlined that

- Bob added it should be an Appendix to the PPC Constitution

- Chris asked the PPC how can we educated the 2/3d's

- Mark uses the monthly newsletter idea as a tool. (not a bulletin) but more of a newspaper idea.. (something electronic)

- Maria outlines that this is a tool to outline Catholicism.

Father wants each member of the PPC to fill out a sandal and candle and do a summary of what does Mark's document do to me? He also points out in summary that the poor and vulnerable don't have interest and then we have to reach out

#### **6. PPC reflections**

The PPC agreed that there will be a reflection period at the beginning of the meeting to get our mind focused around the education of our meeting. (not prayer) "faith"

Father asked us "How are we longing for the reign of God?"

This reflection zone he adds will get us out of the comfort zone.

- APPENDIX ADDED TO THE DISCUSSION

- Maria was worried about time during our meeting for this new addition. However, Chris indicated that future agendas would take this into account to permit sufficient time for discussion of all agenda items. The new reflection period would likely be incorporated immediately following the prayer.

- Chris will come up with a name for next meeting

**7. Mark led the PPC in an example of how the PPC Reflections might happen.** The PPC was then assigned Homework for the next meeting - ½ page document on how the Guidelines document affects our faith - using real life examples.

### **8. Education Pillar**

The PPC discussed ideas on how the Education Pillar and its Priority Activities could be promoted throughout the Parish and its community.

Some suggestions included:

- Bookmarks available for the Parish Gathering
- More bulletin advertising
- New way to communicate – Look and ask for people who can communicate?
- Parish newspaper (electronic)

After some discussion, the PPC agreed to not look for a committee or volunteers, but rather people of expertise in the editorial area

**9. Alpha** – Liz briefly spoke in David's absence

- Liz reported that Alpha has been a huge success. Over 60 people involved – we are at capacity. It is a great tool for educating and reaching out. The group is intended for non-Christians.
- The PPC acknowledged the good work of the Alpha ministry and especially David's efforts on their behalf. Chris agreed to discuss with David his possible participation at the Parish Gathering on the subject.

### **10. Mike – Movie night**

- Poor turn out – This event coincided with both the Knights of Columbus steak dinner and Father's day weekend.

- Mike not sure where to go with this, but leaves the door open for discussion

Liz believed there is optimism for this event

### **11. Additional Items**

- Father handed out an invite from the Archbishop for workshop on Parish Pastoral Councils to be held at St. Paul's. Everyone on the PPC was encouraged to RSVP and attend.
- Chris adds that October is the month in which the PPC is in the Ministry Spotlight. Watch for e-mails and board in the Gathering

space.

**Closing Prayer – Mark**

**Adjournment 9:04 p.m.**

**Next meeting October 24, 2008 – 7:00 p.m. (October Prayers – Bob)**

**St. Paul the Apostle Church  
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
Minutes  
October 23, 2008  
7pm, Room D**

**Present:** Fr. Leo Byrne, Chris Nicol, David Caracciolo, Mike Drewniak, Ruth Brideau, Mark Siemens, Maria Phillips, Bob Barry

**Regrets:** Liz Dobbs

**1. Opening Prayer – Bob**

**2. Adoption of Minutes – Carried.**

**3. Faith Sharing**

- The PPC participated in a Faith Sharing exercise that centered on discussions of what participation in the PPC means to each member.

**4. Pastors Report**

- The current 12th Synod on the Word of God brings poignancy to the underpinnings of our Catholic faith. In particular it has addressed issues raised by Fundamentalism in that the Catholic faith interprets scripture in the context of culture and history rather than literally. It adopts a theological interpretation. Understanding of scripture does come with study (head) but needs to be balanced driven by, heart and hands (eg. meditation and prayer).
- The parish is an active community with celebrations of baptism wedding, funerals and various groups meeting. RCIA is going well. The pre-marriage courses are well underway and are being held at St. Paul's. Planning for the 25th Anniversary has begun. The November 1st meeting for PPC that the Archbishop will be joining, is still on. A Liturgy Committee has been formed and is slowly developing. A productive meeting with Ryan and Concetta took place with as a follow up to the Ministry Leaders gathering.
- Work continues to find the persons to undertake the Communication Committee.

**5. Parish Gathering**

Planning for the Parish Gathering was finalized. Chris informed everyone that the Music, Finance and Youth Ministries agreed to participate, and that Joyce Davies had agreed to organize members of the Multicultural group to help with food and drinks during the social. Mark had agreed to present the Education Pillar theme to parishioners. David also agreed to provide a brief presentation

on behalf of Alpha. Luke also agreed to prepare additional Education Pillar Bookmarks for distribution at the Parish Gathering. Advertising for the event will continue to include Father Leo's announcements during all the masses, as well as a bulletin and website inserts.

**5. Nominations Committee**

Chris provided an update of the nominations process. As of now, it seems there will be 3 vacancies to fill. Father Leo and Chris have been in contact with several people who are interested in joining the PPC. A nominations committee will be struck and elections held.

**6. Education Pillar**

The PPC reflected on the five Education Pillar Activities highlighted by the PPC (see bookmarks) in order to understand which should be the focus of our initial attention, and how identified educational activities already in place can be enhanced. After some discussion and due to time constraints, Chris asked the PPC to reflect on these issues for the next meeting.

**Closing Prayer – Bob**

**Meeting was adjourned at 9pm.**

**Next PPC Meeting – 27th November 2008** (*November Prayers – Luke*)

**St. Paul the Apostle Church  
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
Minutes**

**November 27<sup>th</sup> 2008**

**7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Room D**

**Present:** Fr. Leo Byrne, Bob Barry, Luke McEachnie, Chris Nicol, David Caracciolo, Mike Drewniuk, Mark Siemons, Maria Phillips, Liz Dobbs

**Regrets:** Ruth Brideau

**1. Opening Prayer – Luke**

**2. Adoption of Minutes 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008 – Carried.**

**3. Agenda additions:**

- 10. Maria - Alpha Funding
- 11. Chris – Farewell and Thank you

**4. Pastors Report – Father Leo Byrne**

- Bishop has asked us to count parishioners in the diocese. This is not because numbers are the only criterion for future planning. There is in addition the meaningfulness of longstanding communities and the number of priests.

- We have approximately 1000 people each week. That means we have 1000 people that are open on a deep level to the influence of the Christian message. We are the core group in the parish. Even if you don't have an ounce of faith that is an incredible opportunity.
- There are also the Masses for Christmas, Easter, funerals, weddings, First Communion and Confirmation. Once again these are important moments in the lives of people when they are open to influence at a deep level of life.
- If you do have an ounce of faith, and I believe you do, then you know the Gospel story of the woman who touched the "hem of the garment" of Jesus and was healed. That is early church code language for the way in which the power of Jesus went out to those who came in touch with the Christian community. It is unknown how many touch the "hem of the garment" of Jesus, the Body of Christ of our parish, at work, at home and in leisure time.
- Specifically I am asking you for input into the homily and life of the parish.
- Laughlan Sofield in "Collaborative Ministry" suggests that lay people have something significant to offer clergy who tended to be trained in a monastic mode and setting of spirituality. We/I live my spirituality as you do in the midst of the world. I have something important to learn from you. There is still the inferiority complex in laity regarding spirituality, the sense that priests and nuns have the inside track.
- The homily this Sunday is interwoven with the launching of the Offertory Renewal Program for 2009. That is the difficulty and challenges to connect the message of the Gospel with the realities of daily life. I am choosing to be more rather than less in touch with the heart of the parish and the spiritual side of the Body of Christ.
- I want to begin by recognizing that we cannot go out to bring Christ to the world in the ways that Jesus spoke of last Sunday - I was hungry and you gave me food, thirsty and you gave me drink - unless we are healed ourselves, unless we have the confidence of the power and love of God, unless we have experienced God's healing in our lives.
- I speak of the "woman" whose son died when he was 3 years old and the response "I am sure the baby was crying and I never even heard him".
- We need to be healed ourselves to hear the cries of the world. That is true of the world. The world cannot minister to the world if it is not healed itself.
- We the parish are called to offer that healing to the parishioners and through them to the world.

*Re Faith Sharing, here are some suggestions:*

- Saying uh-huh is part of faith sharing
- When someone shares at an emotional level and the response comes back on an intellectual level, the person learns not to share on the emotional level. Meetings are very small potatoes compared to marriages.
- Homily is an example of faith sharing. It does not mean inappropriate disclosure. You don't hear that from me but it is not intellectual. It can be intellectual and we have I am sure all heard that kind of homily but in my estimation it does not touch hearts and lives. In a recent homily I said when someone is dying and I say to them that Jesus is a great moral teacher, a good example of life, a great role model, that is cold comfort. Who is Jesus in my life - tell me about that.

All Meeting Minutes are bookmarked. To use and see the BOOKMARKS to navigate, make sure the 'BOOKMARK' function is active. This can be done by going to View in the Adobe Reader tool bar, then Navigation Tabs and place check mark beside 'Bookmarks'.

*Re the newsletter:*

- It was suggested that this could be started with contributing members from the PPC, Property, Finance and others will hear about it. Father Leo agreed with Mark that we need to start by saying what is this going to look like, but you have to get the boat in the water before you can steer it. Mark suggested it would be better to gather individuals with interest in creating the newsletter and allowing the group to brainstorm on the specifics.
- Mark will work to arrange an initial meeting with individuals that may be interested once Father Leo forwards their contact information. Father Leo stated that if he had started with the emails of RCIA 10 years ago, he could have built a whole roster of names to draw upon for participation. Father Leo will reflect on possible parishioners that may be valuable to this endeavour and forward the contact information to Mark.

#### **5. PPC Faith Sharing - PPC**

- The members of the PPC shared in their thoughts and used the Mumbai situation as the discussion point.

#### **6. PPC Nominations Committee - Father Leo Byrne**

- Father Leo will share the nominations at the January meeting.

#### **7. Education Pillar – Chris and PPC**

Chris asked the PPC for their input on which of the 5 Education Activities (see Education bookmarks) should receive our initial attention in 2009.

- Luke suggested focusing on Education Activity # 3. Luke outlined using diverse media methods to get more info out to schools and parish families. Mike agreed and added that strengthening the schools will ultimately strengthen the parish.
- Bob suggested an idea to use the mass as a vehicle to teach traditions to the uninformed and youth. (School Masses on Sunday)
- Father Leo points out that explaining the mass is like explaining a birthday party. Chris suggests alternatively another mass separate from Sunday Masses would be more appropriate for the schools.
- Maria and Luke said that we need to use the teachers, parents, and students in the mass and maybe have each school do a mass throughout the year. Maria also said it is important for the school to be responsible for the laity parts of the mass. The PPC noted it is like building a bridge piece by piece, and agrees that the Parish council representatives are valuable contacts to start this initiative.
- While this initiative is moving forward, the PPC was reminded that its members are **not** being asked to carry out all activities, but rather envisage and provide guidance on the kinds of activities that would enhance the focus and participation of parishioners in the Education Pillar.
- Bob adds that Education Activity #1 "Establishing an Office of Religious Education" should be the focus and for which a terms of reference (TOR) should be created. Bob agrees to draft and circulate an Office of Religious Education TOR for discussion at the next meeting.

**\*Homework** – Each PPC member is asked to reflect on the following: "What is your vision for the Office of Religious Education?"

#### **8. Parish Gathering – PPC**

It was noted that while there was a good attendance and participation from a number of Ministries, the turnout for the Gathering was less than anticipated, especially given the blanketed advertising (website, bulletin and Father Leo's announcement at all the masses) for the event. Maria noted that perhaps Wed evening is not the best night for the Gathering, and that maybe a Monday or Tuesday night might work better with some parents. Maria's advice for future planning was noted; however, Chris reminded all the PPC had selected the day based on the availability of the majority of PPC members. Due to time constraints, further discussion on how to attract more parishioners to the Parish Gathering, and whether this event should be held in alternate years, was deferred until the next meeting.

#### **9. Constitution – Chris**

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In the absence of any modifications, Chris asked Father Leo to approve and sign the PPC Constitution for the upcoming year. Chris will distribute copies to all members at the January Meeting.

#### **10. Alpha Funding - Maria**

On behalf of Alpha, Maria requested that \$750.00 in funding be provided to Alpha to help offset costs for various activities implemented by this Ministry. Chris reminded everyone that procedures were adopted as per PPC consensus at the 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008 meeting (see Minutes). Briefly, Ministry chairs are asked to submit their written financial requests to Father Leo and the PPC Chair. While the Finance Committee and Father Leo make the final decisions, they look favourably upon proposals that receive PPC endorsement. In keeping with the PPC focus on the Education Pillar, submission of a written proposal for offsetting Alpha expenses would likely receive full PPC endorsement.

#### **11. Thank You – Chris**

- On behalf of the entire PPC, Chris offered his heartfelt thanks to David and Maria for their input and participation on the Parish Pastoral Council over the last two years. They are both wished continued success in the future.
- Chris also added a "Thank You" to all those returning in 2009. Bob and Chris will be in their 4<sup>th</sup> years, Luke and Ruth will be in their 3<sup>rd</sup> years, and Liz, Mark and Mike will start their 2<sup>nd</sup> years on the PPC.

#### **Closing Prayer – Luke**

**Adjournment 8:58 p.m.**

**Next meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2009 – 7:00 pm**  
(Chris – January Prayers)

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE CHURCH

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL** **Minutes**

**22<sup>nd</sup> January 2009**

**7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Room D**

**Present:** Fr. Leo, Bob Barry, Ruth Brideau, Concetta Buragina, Ryan Borges, Liz Dobbs, Mike Drewniak, Mike McKale, Chris Nicol, Mark Siemons, Patrick Thompson

**Regrets:** Luke McEachnie

1. Opening Prayer – *Chris*
2. Welcome to New PPC Members - *Chris*  
*Updates of Contact List and Prayer Sign Up Sheets – PPC – Sheet also included sign up to take minutes at each meeting and rotate the scribe duties.*
3. Additions to the Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes of 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008

#### **STANDING REPORTS**

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5. Pastor's Report – *Father Leo Byrne*  
Pastor's Report  
January 22, 2009

Welcome to new members and old.

My email contained three varied items. Since this is the year of Education Pillar it is important to convey accurately the perspective of the Catholic Church.

1. Church relation with President Barrack Obama - message of Pope Benedict. An additional message with desire to work with the new president is available on Origins – see username and password.
2. Church relations with Muslims, specifically the work of the Catholic Muslim forum. Once again many articles in origins. I note the mention of Muslims in the inaugural address and interview with the Muslim TV network. Clearly the church is on the same page with the catholic Muslim forum.
3. Statement of Cardinal Mahoney and the bishops of L.A condemning prejudice against gays, calling them brothers and sisters in the church while supporting the traditional definition of marriage.

The Parish Pastoral council has added in more recent years the word Pastoral. That ties this group and you to the role and responsibility of the pastor.

What does the word "pastor" bring to your mind? Reflect on what we have shared and apply that to your role as Pastoral Council

The pastor has responsibility for all in the parish area not just Roman Catholic. That does not mean we meddle but it is our concern if people are sick, treated unjustly or have reason to celebrate. Since you are the ears and eyes of the parish it is an important listening post. That does not mean you bring all the gossip of Kingston West to the PPC meetings. There is then an element of confidentiality that is appropriate. That does not mean that if someone says, "What did you discuss at the PPC meeting?" you have to appear very secretive. Use common sense.

The reading for the fourth Sunday of Advent says it all. David wants to build a house the God and God says who are you to build a house for me – I will build you a house, not a material house but a community. We are called to have listening hearts to discern what kind of "house" community God is building. God usually has long-range plans.

We will spend some time in prayer and in faith sharing at these meetings...do we call them meetings??

This is the group that is meant to be a sounding board for the pastor. I will take you seriously and value your perspective and opinion.

That means we may not seem to "get a lot accomplished" sometimes. It may take some time to be creative. This is a time of reflection. I have said that the PPC is the monastery of the parish.

Practical:

Once again this year parish paid down \$265,000.00 on the principle of the mortgage.

Christmas Masses well attended and went well with many in ministry.

First Reconciliation Parent meetings completed and celebrations to follow on four evenings in February.

#### BUSINESS ARISING

6. PPC Faith Sharing - PPC

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*In the last 5 yrs, do you recall any new understanding, appreciation or awareness of matters related to prayer, church, god, faith?*

Feedback from PPC members included insights such as:

- an awakening 3 years ago when spouse joined the Catholic Church and they attended RCIA together.
- faith seems to come in waves as life changes and children draws us back. Fr. Leo has been inspirational in encouraging regular attendance.
- live life of values, hard work and coming to church helps bring one back into focus resulting in less conflict in life.
- Being an alter boy and dealing with those grieving has made it easier in life. During a sister's serious illness, faith was significantly tested.
- came back to church to appease spouse and experienced a 'faith flood' in almost a single moment although isn't sure what triggered this return of faith. Daily efforts in faith allows one to deal with day to day stresses much more easily.
- Fr. Leo – thinks about being ordained 45 years now and has gained a deep sense that God can be trusted and that He is faithful to us.
- Having gone through many changes and faith has gotten us through challenges and events. Struggles with feeling like never having enough faith although learning to simply trust and let go. It's ok to pray through conversation with God rather than a specific, prescribed manner.
- a good friend's passing lead to an uneasiness with faith but has learned just how important it is to rely on one's faith and that it will get us through. Efforts are made to instill faith in students through teaching career.
- having been born, raised Catholic there has never been any second guessing yet people questioning faith can be challenging. Church attendance is so routine it's missed if and students notice. Questions about God allowing certain things are responded to by suggesting they give it up to God.
- faith has gotten family through challenging times. It's through a conscious effort to build on learning about faith that has increased comfort levels to speak more openly about God, Jesus and the beliefs that we as Catholics share.

7. Education Pillar – *Chris*

*Based on your answers to the exercise of identifying your educational needs as Disciples (Sandal) and Apostles (Candle), what educational resources would help maximize your role and that of the PPC?*

The ministry heads have completed this exercise and Bruno will share the results at the next meeting.

The question was posed: 'What kind of resources needed to make PPC a better group?'

- learn more about other ministries
- allow oneself to remind people they have talents to share and know that it's okay to ask them for help.
- Improve communication with other ministries.
- Would be great to have communications centre.
- Fr. Leo's vision was discussed on how to reach out to the 2/3 of the parish who don't attend. He feels we have to get the 'boat in the water' before you can start paddling out into the ocean.
- The idea of engaging school councils in masses would create a strong link to families who may not attend church on a regular basis.
- It was agreed that Mike Drewniak would coordinate this activity with Concetta and Ryan starting with a discussion with the principals of the schools in the parish catchment area. Offer the opportunity to the schools and let them decide on how best to proceed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

8. Religious Education Committee (*see attachment*) – *Bob*

All Meeting Minutes are bookmarked. To use and see the BOOKMARKS to navigate, make sure the 'BOOKMARK' function is active. This can be done by going to View in the Adobe Reader tool bar, then Navigation Tabs and place check mark beside 'Bookmarks'.

As a PPC we need to understand what we need to do. We must all re-familiarize ourselves with the vision. There is interest in pursuing an Education Committee but we need to decide what we will charge the committee with and what we expect them to do. Our role is to 'blue sky' and not get overburdened with 'doing'. We need to keep the activity out of the PPC and into functional programs similar to what was accomplished by creating a role of Ministry Heads that is capably being filled by Bruno Gallinaro.

9. Closing Prayer - *Chris*

Next PPC Meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2009

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE CHURCH

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

**Minutes**

**26<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

**7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Room D**

**Present:** Fr. Leo, Bob Barry, Ruth Brideau, Concetta Buragina, , Liz Dobbs, Mike Drewniak, Mike McKale, Chris Nicol, Mark Siemons, Patrick Thompson

**Regrets:** Luke McEachnie, Ryan Borges

1. **Opening Prayer – Ruth**

2. **No Additions to the Agenda**

3. **Adoption of Minutes of 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2009**

4. **Ministry Update – Bruno (Ministry Coordinator)**

- Bruno was introduced to the new members of the PPC, and presented a summary of Ministry Head's Meetings over the last few years Sept. 17/08 and Jan. 14/09 for everyone's benefit.
  - 3 meetings held in '08, 1 in '09
  - 23 ministries gathered to share information, thoughts and ideas
  - activity for 2009 is on Education
  - what education items do you/your Ministry need to become better disciples/apostles?
  - some brainstorming ideas from last meeting include:
    - o retreats
    - o invite seminar speakers
    - o workshops (music, Communion assistants)
    - o establish a library
    - o use of Diocesan resources
    - o new ideas needed/welcome.....will funds be made available as innovation costs money?
- Specifically, Bruno reported on highlights from the most recent meeting in January, where those in attendance had met to report their thoughts on what was needed to improve our ability, at the ministry and individual parishioner level, to be better Disciples and Apostles.

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- Bruno also reported everyone was given an opportunity to interact and identify, in an ideal scenario, the resources required to satisfy these needs.
- Attendees at the Ministry Head's meeting were also informed by Chris that a new collaborative process, involving the PPC and Finance Committee, to request financial support to offset costs associated with these resources would be sent out soon.

## STANDING REPORTS

### 5. **Pastor's Report** – *Father Leo Byrne*

- a) I have made three main points in the Homilies of February 8 and 22 as we read from the beginning of the Gospel of Mark's.
- Jesus, as He looked out on a broken suffering world, was moved with a "fierce urgency" to work for the Kingdom of God. Jesus calls us to share that same passion and "urgency".
  - The Gospel warns leadership in the church, bishops, priests, deacons, Parish Pastoral Councils members and others in lay leadership against trying to temper this call to tackle new challenges.
  - The beginning of chapter 2 in Mark's Gospel makes the same point in story form. The author tells of four people, carrying a man to Jesus, encountering obstacles and ripping the roof off the house in order to enable the work of Jesus to be accomplished. Further the "four men carrying the paralysed man to Jesus" emphasizes the need for teamwork and community – "Collaborative Ministry".
  - In the first reading (February 22) God says don't just look to what God has already done – "I am making a new thing, do you not perceive it".

#### **b) Two important aspects**

- i) The message itself.
- ii) A model of how we can read scripture as guidance for our lives and the church/parish.

**c) Four Non Negotiables of Christian Life** – A Catholic Perspective (Holy Longing Father Ron Rolheiser pages 62-69)

d) General Parish Report

**Good attendance at the three Ash @Wednesday Masses Wednesday February 25, 2009 – also went to four schools for liturgy of blessing and distribution of ashes**

e) Ecumenical Service **successful January 25, 2009-02-26**

f) First reconciliation **for children in Grade 2 celebrated on four separate evenings in February.**

g) RCIA **going well with five adults preparing for Baptism and six additional adults preparing to join the Roman catholic Church. Rite of Election at St. Mary's Cathedral Sunday March 1,**

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**2009 with Archbishop O'Brien. Baptism and Full communion for those Baptized Saturday Easter Vigil 8:00 pm April 11, 2009**

**h) Parish Financial Report to Parish going out March 8, 2009 with comparative figures for three years.**

#### BUSINESS ARISING

**6. Faith Sharing – PPC**

*Which person in the Bible do you identify with the most, and why?*

-General consensus for Faith Sharing to be included in minutes to be posted was to highlight high level discussion allowing individuals to review and remove comments should they wish to keep their sharing private

-Sharing included;

-identifying with St. Paul – fire and sense of urgency to get things done, being aggressive yet needing to temper his urgency

-not one particular character but identifying with characters of humility and selflessness

-Abraham – Christian life depends on Faith, Faith provides courage and strength. Knowledge of scriptures are a cure for worry

-Jonah – said he was a believer but wouldn't obey God, yet demanded consequences for others who didn't obey.

-Abraham – set out not knowing where he was headed but always on a journey

-Joseph – rarely mentioned in the Bible but essential character

-Noah – had undying Faith but not until told to build shelter for all. Went through rain, doubt but eventually saw the rainbow

-Thomas – identified with having doubts, sometimes needing proof but always believes

**7. Education Pillar – Chris**

*In an ideal world, what do you think the PPC needs to reach the 2/3 of parishioners who don't attend mass?*

- Discussion deferred to the next meeting due to time constraints.

**8. Religious Education Committee – Terms of Reference –**

- Discussion deferred to next meeting due to time constraints.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**9. Update of Ministry Granting Application procedures – Chris**

- Chris described the letter being mailed out to Ministry Heads indicating a new PPC and Finance Committee collaborative process for funding requests to assist with the maintenance, promotion, expansion, development of Ministry programs.

- A similar letter will be circulated in the bulletin and on the parish website for all parishioners in the months ahead, so that all may participate and be aware of this process.

- The PPC unanimously supported the notion of a clear, informative process so that ministries/parishioners know "where to go".

**10. Closing Prayer - Ruth**

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**March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Room D**

*Present:* Father Byrne, Bob Barry, Chris Nicol, Ruth Brideau, Michael Drewniak, Concetta Buragina, Liz Dobbs, Luke McEachnie, Ryan Borges, Mike McKale, Patrick Thompson

*Regrets:* Mark Siemons

Opening Prayer – Luke

Additions to the Agenda

Adoption of Minutes of February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009

## STANDING REPORTS

*Pastor's Report – Father Leo Byrne; March 26, 2009:*

*General Parish Report:*

RCIA Team successful

5 adults Baptized

RCIA challenge → how to approach people of different religious/cultural backgrounds; \*Liz suggested introducing the Alpha Course to adults preparing for baptism

25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Paul celebration: Bishop doing mass, throw potluck w/ Ministry Heads, bring in a facilitator

Holy Week: 7:30 am Easter mass; Mike Arsenault withdrawing as organist; thoughts on 2 masses on Sunday (ie 9am & 11am) → suggestion that having only two masses may result in a less fragmented parish community.

*Learning from Scripture:*

Narrative and Dogmatic Theology; mostly Narrative Theology in the Bible; Employ wisdom in interpreting the story so as not to miss the point, ie when Abraham travelled into the new Land—"leaving behind the old

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ways and starting anew" : ie. 1. In Marriage, change old habits of a single life, 2. In addiction, not enough to just "throw out the bottle"; change old friends for new in order to start a new life.

Doubting Thomas feels isolated and doesn't fit in. "Put your hands in the Body of Christ". Be sensitive and open up to sick people in the parish. Also reach out to priests who may be feeling isolated.

## BUSINESS ARISING

*Faith Sharing – "As you reflect on the Gospel passage (Luke 5:1-11), do you see yourself at any special point in this story?"*

Sharing included:

-depending on where we are in our lives or during the day, we can identify with being in the beginning of the story, the middle or everywhere in the story. It is not a static point. Our place in the story changes as do our lives

-Simon is not really listening to Jesus but happens to be in the area: likewise, we are at times focused on secular ambitions, "preoccupied", keeping us away from Jesus or doing what is right at that point in time, whether it be at work or a stage in our lives

-Jesus asks Simon if He can make use of his boat and "put out into deep water": this is an invitation to all of us; ie Father Byrne's invitation to us be on the PPC

-"Put out the nets for the catch"- associated w/ personal achievement of having done something greater than oneself; some identified this as an invitation to place ones "worries" w/ God; when its tough give it to God – "trust in God."

-"Fished all night and caught nothing": faith comes in waves- ebbs away and comes back-metaphor for ones life.

-"Large number of fish"-a sense of faith à turning problems/challenges/ worries over to God and trusting that it will be O.K. – has even lead to new circle of close friends

-"Called to companions in other boats to come and help"-identify w/ strengthening and rediscovering ones faith; getting closer to God

-"Left everything and followed Jesus"- many of the PPC members spent much time in contemplation of this last point and identified closely and passionately with it. "...left everything and followed him" appeared as the ultimate goal to which many of us wondered how close or far away we are from it. Suggestion that "leaving everything" metaphorically may be leaving behind your busy schedule and giving all of oneself to listening to your wife or picking up your child, etc. . How do you know if you are "already there – left everything and following Jesus"? Perhaps inviting someone to our church who has become a regular parishioner is moving to that goal.

-allow oneself to be O.K. with having not reached that ultimate goal

- desire is to move towards that goal through our thoughts and actions and as we grow spiritually

All Meeting Minutes are bookmarked. To use and see the BOOKMARKS to navigate, make sure the 'BOOKMARK' function is active. This can be done by going to View in the Adobe Reader tool bar, then Navigation Tabs and place check mark beside 'Bookmarks'.

*Discussion on "Collaboration" Book:* Chapter 1 – "A model for Collaborative Ministry" –There are four Levels of Collaboration :

Level one – Co-existence

Level two – Communication

Level three – Cooperation

Level four – Collaboration

The challenge was that we are stuck at Level one –"Coexistence"and struggling to get to level two. Some PPC members were more optimistic suggesting that we are at Level Three - "Cooperation" and moving towards "Collaboration."

*Education Pillar – Chris*

*Status of the 5 Priority Activities & In an ideal work, how can the PPC help our Parish reach the 2/3 of parishioners who don't attend Mass? What skills/resources do we or other Ministries need to achieve this goal?*

-Emphasis was that the Education Pillar is very important and ought to be stressed as best possible

-Suggestion/discussions included were in educating people, our lives are prime examples of a Christian life and that we should meet people where they are at. They see that we are the "converted" in society. Tools/ educational supports should be available to assist the converted to articulate why we believe what we believe. Model of "Disciple" à "Apostle" to be used.

-Identify who are the 2/3 and why do they not come to Church to assist where to place educational resources

-Recognition that in general, non-parishioners attending a Wedding or Funeral at first feel awkward but eventually feel comfortable, thanks to the effort of Father Leo and other priests. Is there a middle step to help people move into the comfort zone, which will facilitate in getting the 2/3 to Church??

*Home work: Identify skill or resource you might need and/or a ministry may need to be supported or enhanced to reach 2/3 in an ideal and/or real world.*

Religious Education Committee – PPC comments for Bob

-Reviewed Terms of Reference

-Reference made to a Parish in Nashville having a Religious Education Committee with catholic education and related activities thus confirming that Terms of Reference is on track.

- considerations: activity cost or base line funding ( preference is activity cost funding approach), interfaith opportunities, lateral communications across all ministries.

NEW BUSINESS

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Update of Ministry Proposal for Funding Procedures – Chris

- funding procedures is to promote/expand work being done as well as initiate and enhance education
- Informative letter on procedure for funding proposals is in Bulletin as well as in Parish Website
- if request for money is <\$100, go directly to Parish office/finance committee and if >\$100 then process "Proposal for Funding Application Form"

Closing Prayer – Luke

Next PPC Meeting – April 23<sup>rd</sup> , 2009

Prayers – Mark

Minutes - Luke

**April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009**  
**7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Room D**

**Present:** Fr. Leo Byrne, Bob Barry, Luke McEachnie, Liz Dobbs, Ruth Brideau Mark Siemons, Concetta Buragina, Mike McKale, Ryan Borges

**Regrets:** Mike Drewniak, Chris Nicol, Patrick Thompson

**1. Opening Prayer – Mark**

**2. Additions to Agenda**

**3. Website Photos - Deferred**

**4. Adoption of Minutes of 26<sup>th</sup> March 2009 - Carried**

**5. Pastors Report**

- Easter and Holy Week - 5 baptized and 6 received into full communion with the church
- Masses and liturgies well attended even 7:30 am and 7:30 pm
- Alternative to bookmark for June 2009 to families in elementary schools 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary card/bookmark??
- Music Ministry Meeting going through a transition in all churches generally– communication is a challenge for the parish (although St. Paul's has been steadily improving in recent years) –reassuring to see the Vatican also finding this a challenge.
- Active participation by all at Masses is a concern. The better the music gets the less people participate??
- Filipino Choir Sunday 7:30 pm
- First Eucharist/Communion and Parent meetings
- Pre Marriage course moved to weekend, and will take place May 22/23, 2009

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- RCIA and Korean Community (Irish, Portuguese, Italian) No local Korean priest. I am organizing a meeting with the Korean Community.
- Deanery meeting (priests) to assess needs of deanery following report. This will take place Thursday June 4, 2009
- Questions of Archbishop O'Brien

#### **Overall**

- Still looking at 2/3 of parish and how to address - collaborative ministry is a big key
- Barack Obama/Notre Dame, Archbishop Quinn and Richard McBrien. There is enormous political pressure on active bishops to take a certain stance. It is important not to remove us from dialogue and the political process.

#### **6. PPC Faith Sharing - PPC**

- The members of the PPC shared in their thoughts regarding the book Collaboration Chapter 1 Page 29 questions I + iv.
- Rubber duck refrain
- One member began by stating as a parish we may be at #1, and pointed out that all masses are very different. It was suggested that attending different masses sometimes gives the impression of being out of place... (Others agree)
- Others in the PPC discuss how we can improve this in the church. Ideas such as school relationships, have a face recognition are strong ideas.
- Some of the options why we are not being committed to the church through fears or obstacles might be \$\$\$, not being fully confirmed in to the church, What will others think of me.
- One idea is that a retreat with members of the church with a facilitator might help in the growth of the church community reaching out to the 2/3 of parishioners not attending the masses.

#### **7. Education Pillar – Chris and PPC**

- Ruth started by using the example of hospitality (Build it, experience it)
- Luke brings back an old idea in a billboard for the front (A catchy one)
- Liz points out that billboard or display mechanism would aid in communication and also speaking on communication we need to figure out more ways to communicate with the community
- Make a push for more masses on Sunday??? (Father suggests that more masses would fragment the community and would not help the church but hurt the church)
- Luke suggested focusing on Education Activity # 3. Luke outlined using diverse media methods to get more info out to schools and parish families. Mike agreed and added that strengthening the schools will ultimately strengthen the parish.
- Bob suggested an idea to use the mass as a vehicle to teach traditions to the uninformed and youth. (School Masses on Sunday)
- Mark believes that laity will have to step up and take on more responsibility in the church, knowing there will be less ordained.
- Note page 22. Howard Hubbard 3 tasks of bring a community together

#### **8. Religious Education Committee – PPC**

- *Bob's Addendum 8.1*
- *Bob noted the change, and will revise and circulate.*
- The next step is seeking appropriate candidates for appointment to the committee - Fr. has some individuals in mind and will report back once they are approached

#### **9. Collaboration workshop – Chris – Deferred (Maybe Fall 2009)**

#### **10. Spotlight – see attachment**

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## 11. Closing Prayer - Mark

Adjournment 9:03 p.m.

Next meeting 28th May, 2009 – 7:00 pm

**Minutes  
May 28<sup>th</sup> 2009  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Room D**

**Present:** Fr. Leo Byrne, Chris Nicol, Bob Barry, Liz Dobbs, Ruth Brideau Mark Siemons, Concetta Buragina, Mike McKale, Ryan Borges, Mike Drewniak, Patrick Thompson

**Regrets:** Luke McEachnie

### 1. Opening Prayer – All

### 2. Additions to Agenda

3. **Website Photos** - Will be updated with photos and bios - Chris

4. **Adoption of Minutes of April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009**- Carried with spelling corrections

### 5. Pastors Report – Father Leo Byrne

- Meeting of 47 couples and 10 host couples of the deanery for a pre-marriage course was successful and well presented. Many thanks to organizers, volunteers and participants.
- Upcoming events: 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Paul's celebrations, including 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass on June 28<sup>th</sup> @ 3 pm.
- Call for submissions of stories of St. Paul's
- Finance Committee calculates end of debt by September 2011
- The Music Ministry is in transition
- School Mass announcement will be publicized to schools
- 21 Weddings have been scheduled for 2009 – this is up from last year
- 2010 Wedding bookings have already started
- Renovations on the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament will soon commence.
- June 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting is scheduled for Priests of the Deanery

### 6. PPC Faith Sharing – *A Reading from the Gospel of John (John 20:19-29)*

- Every set back is a set up for a comeback
- Regarding challenges of your life – Do you give up or give it up to God?
- We all go through periods of doubt, but Jesus is always with us
- "Peace be with you" offers us the opportunity to catch our breath in our hectic lives, peace can grow within us
- There is a level of faith that we all seek
- Thomas' faith was tested more than those of the other disciples
- Considering Thomas had doubts we are not doing so bad 2000 years later
- Forgiveness of sins is very important in our lives, forgiving others allows us to forgive ourselves
- Blessed are those who come to believe, Faith is a process that builds and grows

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#### **7. Education Pillar**

- People need to be invited personally
- It is a two way street
- In an ideal world we would go door to door
- We are proceeding with our plan of inviting kids/schools/families for special masses
- Consideration for trying special events – ie Movie "Fireproof"
- Father to make available invitations welcoming new parishioners, Liz to work with Father on content and distribution
- The invitations are to be available at the back of the Church

#### **8. Communications Ministry**

- A group of interested individuals to be gathered to develop plans for a new initiative under the Communications Ministry
- Members to look at options for developing an electronic bulletin, new web site, electronic newsletter, external communications and budgetary considerations

#### **9. Funding Proposals**

- Eight applications were received and are to be reviewed by the PPC Chair, followed by a decision by the Finance Committee and Father Byrne.

#### **10. Ministry Spotlight**

- June focus is Parish Anniversary. Start again in July with Pastoral Care Ministry.

#### **11. Closing Prayer - Patrick**

#### **Adjournment**

**Next meeting 25th June, 2009 – 7:00 pm**

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**St. Paul the Apostle Church  
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
Minutes  
June 25<sup>th</sup> 2009  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Room D**

**Present:** Fr. Leo Byrne, Chris Nicol, Ruth Brideau, Mark Siemons, Concetta Buragina, Mike McKale, Mike Drewniak, Patrick Thompson

**Regrets:** Bob Barry, Ryan Borges, Liz Dobbs

**1. Opening Prayer – All**

**2. Minutes of May 28th 2009 adopted. No additions to the agenda.**

**3. Pastors Report – Father Leo Byrne**

**Part I**

**“What’s going on in the church Universal?”**

Cardinal Roger Mahoney

**"Cyberspace has the capacity to be the modern shore of the Sea of Galilee along which the Lord walks, calling disciples to himself"**

VOLUME: 39 ISSUE: 06 DATE: 20090618 SIZE: 26551

**[A Roman Perspective on the Problems of New Communications](#)**

by Father Federico Lombardi, SJ

Recent Vatican communications controversies have shown that in the Internet age the church cannot avoid debate and in fact must be prepared to explain its teachings more convincingly through new media, the Vatican's spokesman said.

VOLUME: 39 ISSUE: 05 DATE: 20090611 SIZE: 53376

**[The Evangelizing Parish](#)**

by Father Allan Figueroa Deck, SJ

"The challenge for an evangelizing parish is to create an environment of real hospitality strong enough to overcome the innate tendency, the default drive of many ecclesial communities to close in on themselves and huddle together in homogeneous groups,"

VOLUME: 39 ISSUE: 05 DATE: 20090611 SIZE: 37484

**[Lay Ecclesial Ministry Today and the Pastor of Tomorrow](#)**

by Edward P. Hahnenberg

"If we reflect on what has been going on in the Catholic Church over the last 40 years, it is hard to escape the conclusion that we are living in one of the most significant periods of ministerial transformation in the history of the church," theologian Edward P. Hahnenberg said.

**Lay church/parish ministry** one of the top four ministerial shifts of the past 2,000 years."

NOTE: Edward Hahnenberg was the priest who wrote the article re the four great waves of Christian History – final and most significant wave is involvement of laity begun in last 40 yrs.
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“There is not a shortage of priests but a shortage of imagination”

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Here are the instructions for gaining access to all sorts of current writings in church.

Origins password and info at bottom – note my name spelled wrong so use it misspelled

- 1) Go on the Internet as normal
- 2) Go to <http://www.originsonline.com>
- 3) Click on the "Search" button
- 4) Click on the "Full Access" link
- 5) You will be asked for a username and password, enter the following:  
Lbryne                      664paper

## Part II

### What's happening on the local front?

- Sacraments
- First communions for five schools plus private/public schools.
- Grade 8 Graduations – 4 completed for another year
- Music ministry is going through a major transition – good –my impression is that this is true in all denominations around the country. If they are not it is not a good sign. Michael Arsenault leaving after serving as organist for 23 years.
- Twenty – Fifth Anniversary mass this coming Sunday June 28, 2009
- Liturgy committee active.
- Heads of Ministries/parish groups gathering in may.
- Finances moving on target and September 2011 set as date for paying off the mortgage.
- Twenty-three weddings planned for this year.
  
- I continue to spend time with the diocese and central deanery
- Clergy Personnel committee – very few clergy moves this year – that doesn't mean the meetings were any less or shorter – just more frustrating!!!
- Council of Priests
- Dean of Central Deanery - trying among other things to support priests of the central deanery
- Marriage preparation course
- Loudspeaker has been repaired
- Reconfiguration of the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament has been completed.

### 5. PPC Faith Sharing – *A Reading from the Gospel of Mark (John 20:19-29)*

#### *Jesus Stills a Storm*

- "Peace ! Be still !" – Jesus loves and cares for us....has power to control
- "Peace !Be still !" – Faith grows – more peace now than during difficult times – easier to step back and see the truth – to get through challenges
- "Why are you afraid ? " Letting everything go....in the end, its about trusting Jesus.
- "...being swamped " Allows you to grow and develop. Getting through difficulties makes your faith grow.
- "...waves beat into the boat " Analogy to events you cannot control. Fear of what lies ahead causes introspection and higher connection with Jesus
- Developing faith takes time and commitment. A strong faith is calming, reassuring. In difficult times, our faith is truly tested.
- " But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion " At times in our lives, it may appear that Jesus has fallen "asleep", only to be awakened as we seek out his love.
- Gospel has a concentration of fear themes. Faith's opposite – doubt, can manifest itself in fear.
- Faith – a closeness to Jesus. Significant events can bring us closer together.

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#### **6. Education Pillar**

- New bookmark planned for release in September/October timeframe
- Alpha – need to share knowledge with others
- Youth Alpha program being considered
- Catholic information
- Need to increase awareness of ministry programs
- Provide post marriage support and education
- Terms of Reference for "Office of Religious Education". Father Leo asked for names to be put forward for consideration.

#### **7. Future Events**

- Fall parish gathering – Bishop O'Brien to visit church
- Children's Fun Fair

#### **8. Spring Funding Proposals**

8 Applications were received and 4 were funded as submitted, including PPC initiative for workshop to be facilitated by Brother Laughlin Sofield.

#### **9. Next Pillar of Focus**

Worship or Service ? PPC Council to review during summer break.

#### **10. Communications Committee**

Web developer and programmer now on board.  
Electronic newsletter – Terry Finn and John Burke

#### **11. Closing Prayer - All**

**Adjournment 8:30pm for social gathering.**

**Next meeting September 24th, 2009 – 7:00 pm**

All Meeting Minutes are bookmarked. To use and see the BOOKMARKS to navigate, make sure the 'BOOKMARK' function is active. This can be done by going to View in the Adobe Reader tool bar, then Navigation Tabs and place check mark beside 'Bookmarks'.

**St. Paul the Apostle Church  
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
Minutes  
September 24, 2009  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Room D**

**Present:** Fr. Leo Byrne, Liz Dobbs, Ruth Brideau Mark Siemons, Concetta Buragina, Mike McKale, Luke McEachnie, Mike Drewniuk, Patrick Thompson

**Regrets:** Ryan Borges, Chris Nicol

**1. Opening Prayer – Concetta**

**2. Additions to Agenda**

**3. Adoption of Minutes of 25<sup>th</sup> June 2009**

4. Local

- Sunday Masses – Summer attendance good – lots of young people. The 1000 people and more who attend every weekend are the real focus for pastor and community
- Schools – item in monthly newsletter
- Marriages – 24 in 2009
- Confirmation four Confirmation Masses – November 7 & 8, 2009
- Deanery Web Site – Spoke to Bishop & Council Of Priests. Waiting for an appointment with Archbishop O'Brien to discuss further
- Bishop visiting the parish in near future. His half hour at Convocation moved us from crisis management to vision – very well done. I will suggest something like that.
- St. Paul's is being used for various things – retreats, Workshop on "Human Trafficking", Justice and Peace workshop on the economy in October.

**4b) Vision**

Continue to reflect on Scripture

Last Sunday – Jesus embraces us in our vulnerability

This Sunday – are we willing to embrace others in their vulnerability

The playwright and former President of the Serb republic Vaclav Havel "Hope is not the conviction that something will turn out well, but the certainty that something makes sense no matter how it turns out".

Samuel Beckett "To find form that accommodates the mess, that is the task of the artist". Father T. Radcliffe says it is also the task of the pastor – and I say also of the Parish Pastoral Council.

**5. PPC Faith Sharing – A Reading from the Gospel of Mark (10:46-52)**

- Blind faith was recognized
- PPC pointed out that he lost his way
- Lost his faith and asked Jesus to show him the way (Spiritually)
- The Blind Beggar followed Jesus following his cure

All Meeting Minutes are bookmarked. To use and see the BOOKMARKS to navigate, make sure the 'BOOKMARK' function is active. This can be done by going to View in the Adobe Reader tool bar, then Navigation Tabs and place check mark beside 'Bookmarks'.

- Not only was he cured visually but Spiritually

#### **6. Updates**

- See Number 8 for fall funding proposal
- See Pastors report

#### **7. Selection of next Pillar**

- After a healthy discussion regarding the selection of the next pillar, and identifying that both go hand and hand with each other, the PPC agreed that the Pillar of Service should be the central Parish focus in 2010. The top 5 Activities will be outlined at our next meeting in October.

#### **8. Funding Proposals – Liz**

- Liz took a few minutes as the new Alpha Chair to discuss Alpha with the PPC
- Outlined the benefits for Catholics and the fact that the image is that it is not a catholic outline but actually is a strong support to understanding Catholicism
- Liz suggested Alpha needs proper funding for the program so that we do not burn out our volunteers and get more people involved.
- The PPC informed Liz that the new collaborative Funding Proposal process set up between the PPC and Finance Committees (with calls for applications in both the spring and fall of each year) is likely the best avenue to address this issue.

#### **9. Closing Prayer - Concetta**

**Adjournment 8:26 p.m.**

**Next meeting 22 October, 2009 – 7:00 pm**