

October 2011

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

On behalf of, St. Paul the Apostle's Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) and the Finance Committee, we are writing to invite autumn 2011 applications for our special funding initiative.

In 2009, our parish initiated the process for the twice annual call for "Proposals for Funding". These proposals for Special Project funding are designed to support new, innovative activities and projects that may need additional resources or support in order to be successful.

On September 17th, parishioners completed phase II of the "Uniting Our Gifts in Ministry". The goal of the gathering was to articulate the vision and the parish mission for the next 5- 10 years. We are proud of the accomplishments of the planning activities and want to share the new Vision with the parish community.

St. Paul the Apostle Church Vision

"With the Holy Spirit, individually, and together, we confidently accept the challenge to: Welcome everyone in an inclusive and non-judgmental way

- o Deepen our relationship with God
- o Learn more about our faith and spirituality
- o Journey together as we share our gifts
- o Reach out to others as Jesus taught us."

In order to bring our Vision alive, we encourage individual parishioners and Ministry groups to reflect on their plans for the year, and submit a "**Proposal for Funding**". These proposals for ideas may include new or creative ways to strengthen the ongoing programs and activities and help us meet the needs of our parishioners and local community. Some approved recent project examples include training through Music Ministry workshops, parishioner participation in a liturgy conference, group programming for our altar servers, and materials for the prayer shawl project and the summer children's play day.

Parishioners will know from previous communications that together our financial support for faith development, pastoral care, youth, and liturgy and music ministries represents about 15% of our total parish expenses. As a tangible result of our debt reduction success we hope to increase our support for the good work performed by our ministries and parish programs. These proposals are one of the ways to ensure that we continue to thrive and grow as a faith community. We have developed a simple one page form that may be used to submit your proposal request.

REVIEW PROCESS

Each completed application will receive careful consideration and feedback. There are two steps for proposal review:

1. Proposals will be carefully reviewed by the Parish Pastoral Council and Fr. Leo Byrne. The purpose is to identify those proposals that have the potential to strengthen and build upon our Vision (September 2011).
2. Proposals that are recommended for approval are forwarded to the Finance Committee for potential funding support.

All proposals will receive responses from in a timely fashion. Proposals receiving financial assistance will be announced in the Parish Bulletin and via our parish website after the review process is completed.

APPLICATION FORMS AND DEADLINES

The “**Proposal for Funding**” application is one page, and is available from the **parish website or main office**. When completed, please email to the attention of *PPC Chair* by email stpaulrc@cogeco.ca or drop off in the parish office. **For fall 2011, “Proposal for Funding” applications are due by Friday November 18th 2011.** Please note that there will be a call for proposals again in the spring of 2012.

The “**Proposal for Funding**” form requires completion of the following four questions:

1. What Ministry or program areas do you feel require additional support?
2. How will the funding requested be applied to facilitate, improve, expand or create these new programs and further the Apostolic Mission of the Parish?
3. How much funding is needed to achieve this goal? Please include financial breakdown for costs if funding is proposed to cover multiple items.
4. For how long will funding be required to achieve this goal?

As we have a vibrant Parish, we also ask individuals to please discuss their ideas prior to submission, with the St. Paul Ministry or group that most closely connects to your proposal. This will help to ensure that we are working together and avoid potential duplication.

We look forward to, and thank you in advance, for your input.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Simons
Chair, PPC

Peter Coughlin
Chair, Finance Committee

c.c. Fr. Leo Byrne, Pastor