**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**

**Minutes**

**April 11, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.**

Attendance

*Council Members*: Fr. Peter, Fr. Suresh, Lisa Ley, Nadine LeBlanc, Evert Garcia, Maricar Martin, Mary Coates, Juanita Gaudet, Rodney Savidge, Neyda Long, Shelley Knorr

*Non Council Members:* Bernadette Samulski (Finance Council)

*Guests*: Chris McAloon, Beth and Graydon Nicholas, Judy Ingram, Katie Crawford

1. Land Acknowledgment Statement (Nadine LeBlanc); Opening Prayer (Father Suresh)
2. Agenda Approval
   1. Added:
      1. #5. Finance Council update
      2. Written Committee Reports – h) Constitution
      3. Other – b) Facebook
3. Minutes of March 14, 2024 – Approval – approved as written
4. Truth and Reconciliation Ministry Presentation – Beth Nicholas
   1. A very informative presentation given by the group. Topics presented included the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Pope Francis’ apology on April 1, 2022 and his subsequent trip to Canada in July 2022, Pastoral letters written by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and the 94 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. References provided to council for further reflection.
5. Finance Council update
   1. Presentation is planned mid May on charitable donations and estate planning
   2. Written update attached
6. Business Arising:
   1. Update - Celebration of Father Peter’s 25th anniversary – Hospitality Ministry (Lisa)
      1. Neyda and Lisa will be meeting in the coming weeks to further plans
   2. Soup Sunday – March 23rd – Sts John and Paul Church (Report to be provided by email from Lisa)
      1. Report attached
   3. Promote Adoration at Mass through a testimony from witnesses – Update (Nadine)
      1. Plan is to have volunteers who are currently attending adoration to give a short testimony at mass once per month at both St. Dunstan’s church and Sts. John & Paul church.
      2. Several parishioners at St. Dunstan’s have volunteered
      3. Volunteers will be sought at Sts John & Paul
   4. Update - Celebration for new baptized members - Easter Sunday between masses (Father Suresh)
      1. Next year plans will be made to have the celebration after the Easter Vigil mass
   5. Update - List of names of the sicks, prayers intention - added to bulletin (Father Suresh)
      1. Discussion held
      2. Consensus determined
         1. names of the sick will continue to be part of the prayer intentions at mass
         2. names will not be read aloud at the Live streamed mass from St. Dunstan’s to protect the privacy of the sick
         3. names will not be printed in the bulletin to protect the privacy of the sick
         4. St. Mary Magdalene prayer group will follow up with the contacts who submitted the names of the sick, determining the names are still appropriate to be on the list and offering support
   6. Update - Pentecostal Mission – Weekend Gifts Workshop May 19-20 (Father Suresh)
      1. The group doing the workshop is now booked up and unavailable to come this year
      2. Plans are in place for Fr. Allen MacDonald to do a mission in April next year. The cost will be $1000. A free will offering will be available to help defray the cost.
7. New Pastoral items:
   1. Evaluation from Holy Week (Forum)
      1. Miscommunication of mass times; suggestion to change the sign at the corner of Regent and Brunswick or put another sign indicating the change
      2. Bishop instructed there would only be one Holy Thursday mass per parish
      3. Positive feedback on the triduum, especially the vigil with the baptisms and confirmations
   2. Lanyard with ID ( Evert)
      1. Suggesting IDs be worn by the greeters and communications volunteers taking pictures at special events
   3. Names of Necrology – bulletin (Nadine)
      1. Suggestion to remove the names from the bulletin
      2. Have a book at the entrance of the churches that would hold the names
      3. Additions to the book could be done on a weekly or monthly basis – office staff to send the list of names to representatives from each church
   4. CLI Disciple Maker Index Survey (Father Suresh)
      1. Summary provided as to the next steps to review the results, construct a plan and provide communication to the parish
   5. Celebration for the Choir (Forum)
      1. Discussion was held. Determined that all volunteers deserve a celebration.
      2. Nadine to contact the Hospitality Committee to coordinate a celebration on Sunday, April 29th at 2:30 at Monsignor Boyd Family Center. Will have pizza and cake.
      3. Contact information (preferably email) for volunteers from each church to be sent to Nadine who will send out an invitation.
   6. Wedding Anniversary (Father Suresh)
      1. Would like to continue the tradition of recognizing those who are celebrating wedding anniversaries of 5, 10, 15, 20 etc years
      2. Will plan to have them attend the 1130 mass at St. Dunstan’s on September 15th with a reception to follow
      3. Cake, tea and coffee to be served
   7. Feast Day for each church (Father Suresh)
      1. Each church to plan a celebration for their patron saint(s). The St. Mary Magdalene celebration will be for the whole parish. Will plan a barbecue again this year to be held at the Monsignor Boyd Family Center.
         1. St. Dunstan – May 19
         2. St. Columba – June 9
         3. Sts. John and Paul: June 26
         4. St. Mary Magdalene – July 22;
8. Written Committee Reports:
9. Faith Formation – report attached
10. Finance Council – report attached
11. Communication – report attached
12. Liturgy – report attached
13. Couple for Christ – report attached
14. K. of C. – no report
15. CWL – no report
16. Constitution
    1. in keeping with the Diocesan Guidelines for Pastoral Council which states the Council is to have by-laws, this committee will be changed to a By-Laws committee. Members will be Fr. Peter, Rodney Savidge, Neyda Long and Maricar Martin.
    2. These guidelines were established in 1985 and are currently under review. The By-Laws committee will meet once the guideline review is completed.
17. Other
    1. Filipino Heritage Month – Thanksgiving Mass (Evert)
       1. A Thanksgiving mass will be held on June 8th
       2. Various ministries will be carried out by members of the Filipino community in the parish
       3. A gathering will be held after mass to continue the celebration of Filipino Heritage Month
    2. Facebook
       1. Our Facebook page needs to be promoted in the parish
       2. An announcement will be made at masses this coming weekend, April 13/14
       3. Information will also be in the bulletin
18. Comments from Father Suresh;
    1. Next year on Easter Sunday an African cultural celebration will be held in the Monsignor Boyd Family Center
    2. The Schizophrenia Society of New Brunswick contacted the parish to inform of a free program being offered for those affected by schizophrenia and their families. Nadine and Lisa will meet with the organizer to get more information.
    3. There has been an issue identified at St. Dunstan’s where a multitude of candles were being lit between masses by some who were not paying for them. This was causing a safety hazard as well as a financial burden. The unlit candles were removed from the area and parishioners were no longer able to purchase them at mass but had to purchase them from the office. Fr. Suresh will make an announcement this weekend. A decision of whether to make the candles available during mass times will be forthcoming.
19. Closing Prayer (Father Suresh).

Date/Time next meeting: May 9, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.