



St. Francis de Sales/Blessed Sacrament
Parish Pastoral Council
January 11, 2011
Hanley Hall



Present: Fr. Amato, Bill St. Jean, Mary Cook, Shelley Costello, Dan Davidson, Matt Drapeau, Rob Drapeau, Lorraine Fenn, Nancy Freestone, Ed Kozlow, Gerry Lipscombe, Gina McWade, and Lauralee Merkley

Regrets: Jameson Lee

1. Bill St. Jean called the meeting to order @ 6:35 PM.
2. Gina led the opening prayer
3. In the Agenda, five items were added to New Business and one item was added to Committee Reports. Moved by Gina and seconded by Rob that the Agenda be accepted as amended. Carried.
4. Moved by Rob and seconded by Dan that the Minutes of the meeting of November 16, 2010, be approved. Carried.
5. Business Arising:
 - a) Commemorative Plaques:
 - Bill and Gerry completed the design of the background and planning the installation of the background and the plaques.
 - Tom Volk of Volkcraft Cabinets is working on the background. It is almost ready for staining. Progress has been slow because of other business commitments.
 - ACTION: The plaques and background should be installed by Jan. 31.
 - b) Parish Family Photos:
 - A photo follow-up day was held on Dec 28. This is the end of taking individual photos.
 - Frank is ready to take group photos of the ministries if we want to go ahead with the parish photo directory.
 - ACTION: Lorraine is to count the number of families photographed.
 - ACTION: Frank is to provide the cost of producing the parish photo directory.
 - ACTION: Bill, Fr. Amato, Lorraine and Cynthia are to meet to review the information from the Action Items above, and to decide whether or not to go ahead with the parish photo directory.
6. School Councils:
 - a) St. James:
 - No report.
 - b) St. Francis: Lorraine Fenn reported that
 - The spaghetti dinner and fundraiser were very successful. Over \$1200 was raised for the Food Bank.
 - c) St. Luke's: Matt Drapeau reported that
 - The school prepared for Christmas with weekly Advent assemblies and a school Advent Mass.
 - The school social justice group, Third Hand Clothing, had a float in the Smiths Falls Santa Claus Parade that won the award for best Christmas float and a cheque for \$100.00. \$50.00 will be donated to one of the Third

Hand Clothing charities and the other \$50.00 will be invested in Third Hand Clothing.

- During the last week before Christmas, there was a canned food drive and \$50.00 for the Food Bank was raised by selling candy-grams.
- On Dec 21, staff and students were given a free turkey lunch.
- A group of students will be attending a meeting of PARTY (Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma) at the Ottawa Civic Hospital.
- The St. Luke's Parent Council meets on a regular basis.

d) St. John's:

- no report
- ACTION: Bill will approach Pat Forbes for the name of a representative who can report to Parish Council.

7. Committee Reports:

a) Liturgy Committee: Fr. Amato reported that:

- The committee will meet on Thursday January 13..

b) Education and Family Life Committee: Fr. Amato reported that

- The committee will meet in March.
- Volunteers are stepped up to help since the departure of Sr. Marlene.
- The turnout for setting up and taking down Christmas decorations was disappointing. Lorraine acknowledged the help received from Dan's Grade 5 class on both occasions.

c) Youth Ministry Committee: Rob Drapeau reported that:

- LifeTeen restarted on Jan 9th with an improv night. It was a great kick-off to start the new semester which is about the paschal mystery.
- Edge will re-start on January 20. Participants are very enthusiastic about Edge.
- Edge expenses are well under the budget of \$400 per month.
- There will be a bulletin insert this week outlining youth activities.

d) Pastoral Care Committee: Fr. Amato reported that:

- The committee met in December and will meet again next week.
- At each meeting, needs are reviewed and some form of in-service is carried out.

e) Social Justice: Gina reported that:

- Six handouts are to be distributed on successive Sundays to increase awareness in the Church's social Justice teaching.
- It was suggested that each topic be a bulletin insert and that the insert be posted to the parish web site. The posting would be advertized in the bulletin.
- ACTION: Fr. Amato and Gina are to meet to finalize plans.

f) Stewardship Committee: No report.

g) Cemetery Committee: Fr. Amato reported that:

- Clients are still laying low.

8. CWL: Mary Cook reported that:

a) They held an election on December 01 and a new Council was elected, led by Pat Murphy as President.

b) The installation of the new President and Council will take place during the 5 PM Mass on Saturday January 15.

c) The membership drive will be held from January 15 to January 30.

9. Knights of Columbus: Dan Davidson reported that:

a) The Knights have continued with their regular Pancake Breakfast and Dinners.

- b) The Knights of the local councils worked together to build the Christmas Parade Float around the theme “Keep Christ in Christmas” and the float was shared by all of the local councils. It won Best Religious Float for Smiths Falls.
 - c) The Knights worked together with the ladies of the CWL to support the Giving Bowl Spaghetti Supper organized by the staff and students of St. Francis de Sales School. Approximately \$1200 was raised for the Food Bank.
 - d) The Free Throw Basketball Tournament will be held on Sunday January 30 from 12:45 PM to 4 PM for students from local schools.
10. Finance and Property Committee: Fr. Amato reported that:
- a) The next meeting will be held on Thursday January 20 to review the present status and future projects. Last year was a significant year in expenditures; this year will be much more modest.
11. New Business:
- a) Parish Council Membership:
 - A list was circulated showing current members and years of service.
 - Council membership should be 10 to 12 members and a few more members are needed.
 - ACTION: Bill will contact those whose term is up as to whether or not they wish to continue on Council.
 - ACTION: There will be a Bulletin insert this weekend (Jan 15-16) and Bill or his designate will speak at all masses next weekend (Jan 22-23).
 - b) Parish Directory:
 - It needs to be updated with the current contact information.
 - ACTION: Rob and Mary-Ellen will gather the necessary info. Hopefully, it will be released in a few weeks.
 - c) Parish Mission Statement: delayed to next meeting.
 - d) Parish Volunteer Appreciation:
 - There was a brief sharing of ideas around what the parish could do to say “Thank you”.
 - ACTION: All members are to “put on their thinking caps” and bring ideas to the next meeting for a Volunteer Thank-You Week.
 - e) Doors Open (Ontario):
 - This event will be held on Sunday June 05 from Noon to 4 PM.
 - Moved by Ed, seconded by Dan that we participate. Carried.
 - f) Archbishop’s Letter February 11-12:
 - For the past year, Fr. Amato has served on the Archbishop’s Parish Review Committee. Its membership consisted of the four Deans, two lay representatives from each Deanery, Msgr. Lynch and a member-at-large appointed by the Archbishop. Its purpose was to come up with principles and procedures to close or cluster some parishes in the diocese.
 - Its final document will be given to every parishioner in the diocese at Mass on February 11-12, and will be accompanied by an explanation by the parish priest.
 - The need for the document is indicated by the fact that our diocese has 71 parishes and missions served by 45 priests, 30 of which are diocesan and 15 of which do not belong to us.
 - Fr. Amato reviewed the materials to be handed out on Feb 11-12 for our clarification, understanding, anticipation and support.
12. Pastor’s Report:
- a) Nothing further to report.

13. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday March 01, at 6:30 PM.
14. Rob Drapeau volunteered to be the prayer leader for the next meeting.
15. Moved by Lorraine, seconded by Dan, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.
16. Gina read a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Kozlow