

# St. Basil's Parish Council

## Meeting Minutes from February 16, 2017

### Meeting Opening and Prayers

**Attendance:** Father Ross Finlan, Gerard Lewis, Ellis Lynn Duschenes, Alison Elliott, Amalia Lentini

Lord God of Holiness

You have called us to be the servants of Your servants

We listen to their dreams as their representatives

Sit with us. Bestow upon us the Grace of Your Guidance

Help us to strengthen and grow the positive core of this community

Help us be mindful of our parishioners at each stage in their lives

May the needs of our parishioners/ And the common good of all

Be our concern.

May our decisions in these matters be a revelation of your Will/ Inspire us with the energy of Holy Spirit to be positive and forward thinking

Optimistic and innovative

Thankful to have learned from the paths we have trod when times were different

Open to the paths that lay before us when times are changing

Grant us the light of Divine Wisdom

We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ

Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit

Forever and ever.

Amen

### **Business Arising from Last Meeting (January 19, 2017)**

- ◆ The January meeting minutes were approved and posted
- ◆ Pre-authorized Donations were distributed in the Bulletin
- ◆ Attempts to gain stewardship over the St. Basil's Facebook page are ongoing

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### Imagine St Basil's Update

#### Imagine St. Basil's Leadership Summit

- ◆ The Imagine St Basil's Leadership Summit was held on January 28, 2017
- ◆ Approximately 50 people attended
- ◆ It was a relationship mapping exercise which raised awareness of communication, accountability, and collaboration
- ◆ The Design Team will be releasing a report

#### Design Team Meeting February 24-25

- ◆ The Design Team is meeting on Friday Feb 24 and Saturday Feb 25 to review the notes of the Leadership Summit and develop a report
  - ◇ A small group will conduct an initial review on the 24th
  - ◇ The larger plenary (15 people of the design team) will complete the full report on the 25th
- ◆ The final report will be presented to Parish Council with recommendations for the structure of Ministries and the structure of the Parish Council
- ◆ The search for new Parish Council members will continue after this report is received

### Old Business

#### The Steel Cross

- ◆ Extensive renovations are required before the steel cross can be placed at the front of the Church
- ◆ It is the decision of the Council that the current cross be replaced with the original once the renovations are complete

#### Google Calendar

- ◆ An online calendar will be posted on the website
  - ◇ This calendar will allow parishioners to see which rooms are available
  - ◇ It could also allow people to see which meetings are available and potentially meeting agendas

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### Other Business

#### **Easter Preparations** (visit [www.stbasilsparish.ca/calendar](http://www.stbasilsparish.ca/calendar) for details)

- ◆ Children's Liturgy and Family Mass (Sunday 26th)
  - ◇ Pancake Breakfast between masses (bring your own toppings)
- ◆ Holy Thursday Mass
  - ◇ Two people from Parish Council and two from Finance Council will be required to help with the Washing of the Feet Ceremony
  - ◇ Finance Council needs to be consulted on this decision
- ◆ Good Friday
  - ◇ A Good Friday Stations of the Cross activity is scheduled (as with last year)
- ◆ Easter Sunday
  - ◇ Blessing of Easter baskets to take place on Sunday
  - ◇ Masses will be scheduled at their regular times
- ◆ Confirmation
  - ◇ Pairing Youth Group with Confirmation Preparation was a large success

#### **Book Readings**

- ◆ Special Lenten Event: Henri Nouwen and the Road to Character
- ◆ Presentation with Fr. Corbin Eddy and parishioner/author Kevin Burns, on Thursday, March 16th 2017, 7:00 pm in St Basil's Parish Hall. Fr. Eddy reflects on the timeless landmarks and inspiring examples that we encounter while on the "road to character". Kevin will present his new biography of acclaimed spiritual writer Henri Nouwen. Free admission and light refreshments.

### Reports from Commissions

#### **Finance Council**

- ◆ The Budget has been approved. The financial report has not been delivered to the Arch Diocese yet
- ◆ There is a Bulletin insert regarding fundraising
  - ◇ A Restoration Concert is being planned by Finance Council (info in the Bulletin)

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### Reports from Commissions (Cont.)

#### Social Justice Commission

- ◆ The Social Action Group is looking to do a "Halfway There" celebration on March 26, 2017 (between the masses)
  - ◇ Social Action Group will publish an update report in the Bulletin (on Friday 24th)

#### Prayer Shawl Ministry

- ◆ The Prayer Shawl Ministry wants to expand their services, offering follow-up visits
  - ◇ Could need to recruit more people to help visit
  - ◇ Father Ross will accept prayers of general intentions to be said for each of the recipients of the Prayer Shawls
- ◆ Father Ross will look into more options for visiting parishioners no longer able to attend church
  - ◇ Visitors will require a police check/vulnerable sectors check

#### Community Life

- ◆ Knights of Columbus and Catholic Women's League will clean up of Rectory rooms to provide space for the arrival of Fr. Corbin Eddy.
- ◆ The Knights and CWL are scheduling a joint meeting to explore opportunities to collaborate with one another. This meeting is taking place on 26 Apr 2017.
- ◆ The Children's Liturgy Group has approached the Round Table asking for assistance in hosting a Pre Lenten Pancake Breakfast after the 9:00am Mass on Sunday February 26th. A call was issued by Pat Latimer to provide assistance consisting of helping with the setup and preparing the pancakes and sausages for 75. The children's group will be in charge of the serving and the cleanup.
- ◆ Everything is in place for our St. Patrick's Day Dinner slated for Friday March 17th. Tickets are now available. More information to follow.
- ◆ Ladies Bridge schedules are received in the Fall and all games must be concluded by May. The ladies organize these events as their schedules allow
- ◆ Ladies Bridge held their remembrance mass for deceased members of the group close to November 11. The mass was followed by coffee/refreshments
- ◆ The next activity will be a closing banquet in June

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### Message From Father Ross

#### **Guidelines for the Pastoral Accompaniment of Christ's Faithful who are Divorced and Remarried without a Decree of Nullity**

- ◆ At the next meeting the Council will discuss a document from the Catholic Bishops of Alberta and the North-West Territories entitled Guidelines for the Pastoral Accompaniment of Christ's Faithful who are Divorced and Remarried without a Decree of Nullity. Archbishop Prendergast has written an endorsement and encourages its distribution in our parishes. The Ontario bishops have not issued a similar guidance
  - ◇ The Council decided 20 minutes will be devoted to conversation at the next meeting

#### **Life Changed, Not Ended: Preparing a Catholic Funeral**

- ◆ The Parish has ordered 10 copies of "Life Changed, Not Ended: Preparing for a Catholic Funeral" to replace our present publication which did not include all the readings and prayers and which did not have the required copyright permissions. We also received two copies of "Rite of Christian Funerals" which contains the NRSV translation in use in our Lectionary and updated prayers for when ashes in an urn is used at the funeral
  - ◇ Potential workshops on how to plan funerals, bequeathals, funeral rites, etc. for Parishioners

#### **Reserve the Date**

- ◆ A new feature in the Bulletin to give parishioners advanced notice of upcoming events for which more information will be available closer to the date. For example, our Lenten Penance service will be on April 5 at 19:00

#### **Medical Assistance in Dying**

- ◆ Ontario is the only province which intends to remove conscience rights for doctors and other health care practitioners, protected by Federal legislation. The proposed law will require all to perform abortions and assist in hastening the death of patients who so request, no matter the personal views of the physicians. Where does that put potential medical students who oppose such measures? We are encouraged to allow a medical person to address our congregation during mass to raise awareness and seek support in defeating the proposed legislation
  - ◇ Search for the legislation and situation of the government
  - ◇ Welcome people who wish to discuss with the Parish

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### Message from Father Ross Cont.

#### Other Business

- ◆ Father Ross sent a memo to the ministers of the weekday masses to indicate preferred standard operating procedures. It will be distributed over the coming weeks
- ◆ Father Ross has written five bulletin articles, three for use during Father Ross's absence. One more will be written. A number of them will highlight paragraphs on family life from Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love)
  - ◇ Released by Pope Francis
- ◆ It was recommended at the Pastoral Day that there be a link on the Parish's website and published in the Bulletin the address to access the Friday Facts of the archdiocese which may be of interest. I suggest all Pastoral Council members subscribe to the Friday Facts

### Next Meeting

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 23, 2016