

Parish of the Precious Blood Pastoral Council Meeting

Minutes of: March 19, 2015 – Holy Rosary, Caribou



**2015
Pastoral Council Officers**

President
Father Jean-Paul Labrie

Chair
David Caron
(St. Joseph – Mars Hill)

Vice-Chair
Bob LeBlanc
(Holy Rosary – Caribou)

Secretary
Barb Caron
(St. Joseph – Mars Hill)

Mission Statement

We, the members of the Parish of the Precious Blood, believe we have been called by God to use our time, talent and treasure to serve God and his children. We seek to be a community of faith, hope and love in union with the Holy Spirit.

Empowered by the Eucharist, we are dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus taught by the Roman Catholic Church through prayer, worship, sacraments, education and service. We renew our dedication to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, attempting always, in all things, to love as Jesus loves.

Attendees:

Holy Rosary;
Sacred Heart;
St. Catherine;
St. Denis;
St. Joseph;
St. Louis;
St. Louis;
St. Mark;
St. Mary;
St. Theresa;
Our Lady of the Lake
Parish of the Precious Blood - Rep:
Fr. Jean-Paul Labrie
Fr. Ray Morency
Janet Beckwith
Mike Lagasse
Stella Carlstrom
Other Parishioners:
Barb Caron,
Jim Savage, Janette McBurnie

Topic		Decision/Action	Responsible Party	Follow-Up	Resolved Date
Opening Prayer	The meeting was called to order by Dave Caron at 6:00 PM. The reflection on the Solemnity of St. Joseph from 'The Word Among Us' was shared by Fr. Labrie.		Fr.Labrie		
Minutes		<u>Motion:</u> Norm Johnson made the motion to accept the Minutes of January 15, 2015 as presented. <u>Seconded by Debbie Cyr. Motion carried.</u>	Dave Caron		

Old Business					
Storm Policy	Wayne Gagnon from Our Lady of the Lake shared that when they have no mass due to cancellations; he would like to allow the people to come anyway and have the option to stay and pray as a community or to leave due to the inclement weather. After some discussion, councilors agreed that the people need to be notified of cancellations ahead of time to avoid any accidents that may occur due to travel conditions.	Fr. Labrie stated that <u>Storm Policy decisions will be made Friday Night</u> whenever possible leaving enough time for all sites to receive the info. Sharing the decision seems to be going very well. <u>WAGM Storm Announcement:</u> In order to be able to read the full list of cancellations, each worship site will require a separate announcement; it is important to use more than one entry and to limit the characters used to express the message. <u>Praise - Send a Postcard Expressing Gratitude of Service:</u> Norm Johnson expressed that by praising the service that we receive from WAGM will have a positive reaction and will most likely ensure that our needs are met. (12 Brewer Rd., Presque Isle) <u>Priest Replacement:</u> Fr. Labrie approached the Diocese and was told that Bishop Deeley wants to send a priest to replace Fr. Ray upon his retirement. We will either have an elderly priest or a foreign born priest. Either way, we will have to make adjustments. We will most likely find out at the last minute; we are asked to make no adjustments at this time and to wait and see what can be done to meet our needs.	Fr. Labrie		Ongoing
2 Priest Schedule					
New Business					
Communication Survey	Norm Johnson representing the Communication Committee, a subcommittee of Church and Family Life Commission, shared that they would like to conduct a survey at each church site seeking to improve the overall communication in our Parish. This survey can also be a tool in receiving or updating contact information on our parish members.	<u>Motion:</u> Irene Ellis made the motion to have Norm Johnson organize the operation of the Communication Survey to be conducted at each church site and to use the Pastoral Council Members as representatives for contact. <u>Secinded by Wayne Spink. Motion carried.</u>	Norm Johnson		Ongoing
Commission Reports					
Social Justice & Peace: HOPE	No Report - No Representative		Sr. Mary Kelley Tim Sturlz		
Worship & Spirituality	Lynn Pelli, Chair - not present	See Attached Report - March 2015	Fr. Kyle Lynn Pelli,	Informational	Ongoing

	Norm Johnson – Co-Chair for Worship & Spirituality shared the following:	<p><u>Paschal Candles</u> are in and will be used during Holy Saturday's Celebration of New Light.</p> <p><u>Palms</u> for each worship site will be distributed at Holy Rosary.</p>	Norm Johnson		
Faith Formation Commission	<p>Corey Morin, Youth Minister – Not Present</p> <p>Stella Carlstrom, Parish Catechetical Leader reviewed her attached Faith Formation Report with the council. She noted that fundraisers netted a profit of \$3,531.00; these funds will be used to purchase supplies for activities and lessons. Chalkboards will be purchased where needed.</p> <p>A change in approaching the way we present our lessons has sparked interest in our kids and the desire to bring a friend along with them.</p> <p>Stella and her Faith Formation Team are contemplating the idea of extending their classes to end at the same time as the public school year.</p>	<p>See Attached Report - March 2015</p> <p>See Attached Report - March 2015</p> <p>A <u>RCIA Retreat</u> will be held at St. Mary's on Saturday, March 21st at 10 am.</p> <p>A <u>Faith Fair</u> will end the Faith Formation school year (June 7 - 11 am) at Holy Rosary Parish Hall. The theme will be <u>A Day in Jerusalem</u>.</p>	Corey Morin Stella Carlstrom	Informational	Ongoing
Church and Family Life	<p>Sue Dugal, Chair reported on her committee and the following subcommittees:</p> <p><u>Communication</u> Facilitators: Norm Johnson, Jim Savage <u>Strengthening the Family</u> Facilitator: Rena Lagasse <u>Sharing the Faith</u> Facilitator: Cindy Gagnon <u>Internal Hospitality</u> Facilitator: Joan McElwain <u>External Hospitality</u> Facilitator: Nancy Saucier</p> <p>2 Meetings have been held with Fr. Kyle and the whole group.</p> <p><u>Representation</u>: Important to have a representative from each church site be on each of the various subcommittees.</p> <p><u>Communication</u>: There was much discussion on the need for better communication among our worship sites : Fr. Labrie shared that we never communicate well enough. Priorities need to be set and it is always helpful to re-</p>	<p>See Attached Report - March 2015</p> <p><u>Church & Family Life</u> - recommend the hiring of a part-time person with training in communications to organize and facilitate better communication among our worship sites. Fr. Labrie and the Chair stated that the Church & Family Life Commission come back with a job description for this part-time person and their expectations from the staff and other employees.</p> <p><u>Strengthening the Family</u> - One way to increase Family Participation: invite family members to bring up the gifts at Mass when the Mass intention is for their family. This committee would encourage this practice at all church sites.</p> <p><u>Sharing the Faith</u> - Committee to organize a parish-wide training to develop Small Faith-Sharing group leaders.</p> <p><u>Internal Hospitality</u> - Holy Rosary in Caribou is organizing a</p>	Sue Dugal		Ongoing

<p>All Committee Reports</p>	<p>evaluate our needs and expectations.</p> <p>Chris Grover noted that if we do hire a part-time person or use a volunteer, we need to keep in mind that time for training may be a concern. We would be asking Fr. Labrie and Janet to give more of their valued time; that they may not have.</p> <p><u>Communication:</u> Janet stated that all worship sites need to feed information of their news and plans back to her so she can feed this information back to all worship sites and to post this info on the parish's website and the institutional website. Facebook communication can be a great asset and we need to make use of this tool. It is important for us as a parish to be able to attend functions at each of our worship sites.</p>	<p>post Sunday Mass coffee and donut gathering at their church basement beginning the Sunday after Easter. Internal Hospitality is going on at St. Mary's, St. Louis in Limestone gather for breakfast and St. Mark's in Ashland gather for coffee and doughnuts after their celebrations. Janet noted that she spotted photos of St. Joseph's celebrations that go on. Important to pass this info to Janet.</p> <p><u>External Hospitality</u> - Bringing Communion to hospitals, nursing homes, boarding homes and to the home-bound is a priority that must be met in our Parish. This subcommittee will take on the work of organizing/developing this ministry.</p> <p><u>Motion to accept Sue Dugal's report as presented was made by Debbie Cyr and seconded by Irene Ellis. Motion carried.</u></p> <p><u>Motion to accept all Committee Reports as presented was made by Chris Grover; seconded by Norm Johnson. Motion carried.</u></p>			
Pastoral Report					
<p>Pastoral Report</p> <p>Gift:</p> <p>Fr. Labrie's Lenten Message</p>	<p>Fr. Labrie shared that 3244 mailings went out for GIFT. Today we have 2502 active addresses out of those mailings.</p> <p>Some parishioners are pledging a one-time contribution while others are increasing their contributions by 20% and even 30%. Our parishioners are hearing the needs of our Parish and are willing to participate. Lent is really an ideal time for our Parish to promote GIFT and that it was completed before our Appeal in May.</p> <p>The Council felt that Fr. Labrie's Lenten Messages are a great outsource. Dave Caron shared that he looks forward to the weekly messages; this is working out very well and is enjoyed by many.</p> <p>Jeanette McBurnie enjoys the site and finds it to be a great past time to connect to all available resources.</p>	<p>This weekend, March 21 & 22 ends GIFT, although, GIFT is an ongoing activity. Important to evaluate the contributions that are being made. GIFT informed our parishioners that they may pledge through Legacy or Endowment contributions.</p> <p>It is important for staff to develop a mechanism in keeping addresses current.</p> <p>Fr. Labrie shared that he will try to continue these messages throughout Easter and end on Pentecost. A great way to spiritually feed people and to make a personal connection with everyone by addressing them by name.</p> <p>These messages are truly a follow-up to Visioning.</p>	<p>Fr. Labrie</p>	<p>Informational</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

	Janet shared that these messages have created a very positive response by many and that they are touched by the personal contact with Fr. Labrie. Parishioners have shared that it strengthens their faith, that it also includes parish activities and updates.	Holy Week - Fr. Labrie asked that we encourage people to attend our Holy Week Celebrations!			
Other Business					
Open House		An Open House for Fr. Ray's Retirement will take place at the KFC Hall in Presque Isle on June 21 from 2 to 4 pm. The open house is being put on by the Daughters of Isabella. Fr. Ray's last weekend Mass will be June 20 & 21.		Informational	Ongoing
Church Picnic		Holy Rosary in Caribou will sponsor the parish picnic; to take place on June 7.			
Sr. Mary		Sr. Mary will be retiring sometime in June or July.			
On-Line Contributions	Dave asked Mike Lagasse how secure the website is in making on-line contributions.	Mike Lagasse shared that Electronic Giving, We Share, is secure and meets all certification standards. You will receive notification of when your donation will be applied and the amount of monies that will be applied as a donation.			
Next Meeting					
Calendar	Next Meeting:	Date: May 21, 2015 @ Holy Rosary, Caribou - 6:00 PM	Dave Caron		
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM with a closing prayer.				