

ST. KEVIN'S PARISH

SERVING THE ENGLISH SPEAKING ROMAN CATHOLICS OF CAPREOL & VALLEY EAST

4610 St. Therese Street Val Therese, ON P3P 1S5

Tel: 705-969-3663 Fax: 705-969-3262

Web: www.stkevinparish.ca E-mail: pastor@stkevinparish.ca secretary@stkevinparish.ca

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Teresa Cloutier	SK Site	Romaine Chappell	OLP Site Absent
Sue Godin	SK Site	Bert D'Appolonia	OLP Site
Gord Jenkinson	SK Site	Bob Johnson	OLP Site
Aline Radey	SK Site	Laurie Jones	OLP Site
Pat Hinds	SK Site	Marlynn Paul	OLP Site
		Jeannette Rainville	OLP Site

Minutes

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, January 27th @ 7pm

LOCATION: Board Room of our St. Kevin Site

Our PPC met on January 27th and discussed the following pastoral issues:

(1) Parish initiatives post-Arise; (2) (Re)-evangelization of our community; (3) Refugee sponsorship; (4) Parish initiatives for the Year of Mercy.

The following is a brief summary of the conclusions we reached.

Re: (1) There are five Arise style small groups who will continue to meet during Lent. Each group has chosen the resource most effective for them. Most of these groups are also open to accepting new members, and those groups have been promoted through the Parish bulletin.

Re: (2) Parish (re)evangelization is integrally tied in to our post-Arise efforts, and so will follow accordingly. PPC members will, however, continue to prayerfully ponder what direction God may be whispering to us in this area and bring forward whatever may be discerned. At this meeting, in addition to the connection made with item (1), a further connection was made later on in the meeting in our discussions around items (3) and (4).

Re: (3) As of January 1st, both the contract for the Rectory and the Memorandum of Understanding regarding rent, have been signed with the Parish, the Diocese, and First United Church in Capreol. Many parishioners have devoted countless hours in preparing for and then welcoming and integrating the Alzahrn family into our community. Updates for the Parish are provided weekly through the Parish bulletin.

The real question raised here by Fr. Michael, however, is: can we do more? Do we have the wherewithal to sponsor another family? After an extended discussion, there was a unanimous 'yes' expressed. We have the possibility of partnering with St. Vincent de Paul in the use of their house in Val Caron, and various options available in terms of extending the efforts of the Capreol-Valley Sponsorship Group, or partnering with the United Church in Val Therese, or partnering with ORAT in Toronto. Fr. Michael will begin to move forward, then, in investigating the options available to us and gauging the level of interest in our community in this possible second sponsorship. Central to all of this, of course, will be the willingness of new people stepping forward to take on leadership roles. We can't expect the same people who have been heavily involved in Capreol to do the same work in Val Caron. A final point was raised connecting this discussion with our final item (4), inasmuch as we are striving to live out the Corporal Work of Mercy of housing the homeless. So, it is a timely undertaking for the Year of Mercy.

Re: (4) Fr. Michael invited an open brainstorming session on this item, saying that neither he nor the Diocese have any concrete plans to date.

The CWL at each worship site mentioned some initiatives being promoted through the National Office. These involve participating in the Corporal and Spiritual works of Mercy, both individually and communally. In particular, there are both spiritual and legislative initiatives being promoted to encourage the strengthening of Palliative and Hospice care in Canada. There is also the possibility of an organized bus trip to visit Our Lady's Basilica in Quebec this fall as pilgrims to the Holy Door. If this pilgrimage is done, it will likely take place in October.

Further ideas were promoted around the idea of an afternoon or evening presentation (perhaps by the new Bishop?) on the theme of mercy, perhaps incorporating a time of prayer and a social component – maybe even a dinner.

Fr. Michael wondered, in that vein, if a more elaborate celebration of the Feast of Divine Mercy on the Sunday following Easter Sunday might be appropriate. Here, we might consider a more extended form of presentation incorporated into the devotion, and then a social of some sort following.

Members were asked to ponder further on this question, as we will try to firm up some of our ideas leading into our next meeting in March.

Our next meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9th at 7pm in the Board Room of Our Lady of Peace Site.