

As of February 1, 2015, the members of our newly formed Parish Pastoral Council are:

St. Kevin’s Site:

Teresa Cloutier, Sue Godin, Gord Jenkinson, Marina Lamoureux and Aline Radey.

Our Lady of Peace Site:

Romaine Chappell, Bert D’Appolonia, Bob Johnson, Laurie Jones, Marlynn Paul and Jeannette Rainville.

Our newly formed Parish Pastoral Council met on Wednesday, March 11th for the first time. More than anything else, we wanted to establish the terms of reference for our Council, and the structures in which we would fulfill our mandate.

The following was established in this regard:

In addition to the Pastor, membership of the PPC will consist of a maximum of 12 Parishioners, with 6 drawn from each worship site. Terms will be for 3 years, renewable once. Nominations for positions will be accepted each fall, if there are openings to be filled. If there are more nominations than openings available, an election will be held at each respective worship site. The model our Council will follow what is known as the “Pastoral Instrument Model”. We will meet 5 times every year, about every 8 weeks, in January, March, May, September and November. Additional meetings will be scheduled as necessary.

The PPC, comprised of prudent and experienced parishioners, will serve the Parish by helping the Pastor to understand the important pastoral concerns of the Parish in order that he can make good decisions on the Parish’s behalf. They will do this by studying and weighing those matters which concern the pastoral works of the Parish, and by proposing practical conclusions concerning them. Important pastoral concerns may be brought forward by the Pastor or by any PPC member.

Every meeting will open with an Arise style prayer (Scriptural reflection), as we strive to root ourselves in the will of God. Our meetings will be based on working towards consensus. The Pastor will lead the meeting. He will ensure an agenda has been sent out in a timely manner. He will strive to elicit the input from all the members who wish to contribute their thoughts on any given topic.

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Once all of those “nuts and bolts” had been dealt with, the balance of our time was given over to an initial discussion of some of the pastoral concerns we might consider addressing.

These are:

Parish pastoral initiative(s) post-Arise – Arise concludes at the end of this year. What, if anything, do we do next to animate our parish life?

(Re)-Evangelization in our community – What is the best way to reach out to Catholics who do not or no longer practice their faith?

Unity between our worship sites – What, if anything, can be done to help heal the hurt and anger arising from both Parish families going from one full time pastor to our current situation – a reality that has affected both our communities and continues to have lingering effects?

Our next meeting will be on May 6th. Between now and then, the PPC members will pray and ponder these questions with a view to determining if they should be examined in more detail with a view to proposing practical proposals for addressing them.