

**ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY (“SMCC”)
PASTORAL COUNCIL (“PC”)
MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2023 @ 7:00 PM**

Present (*In person*): Fr. Vargas, B. Choquette (Chair), M. Tapuska (Secretary), A. Bitter, S. Gaela, L. Iovinelli, N. McIntosh, T. Novecosky, K. Renger, P. Tan, A. Valdez
(*By Zoom/conference call*): G. Brand, B. Popp, P. Van de Mosselaer

Absent: Fr. Hernandez, T. Klassen

AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer

2. Items Scheduled to Revisit

a) Kids Kingdom Update

The position “Children’s Liturgy Coordinator” for SMCC will be posted through the Diocese. The position may be expanded to include the Roots program.

There are volunteers who are willing to help although they would have to be referred to the Volunteer Coordinator to complete the required paperwork and police checks. Discussion followed as to whether volunteers should run the program before a coordinator is hired.

Moved that the Children’s Liturgy Program does not commence until a coordinator is hired. **The motion was approved.**

b) Chapel Renovations

The renovations on the chapel are progressing. The arch, drywall and wiring are completed. The flooring is partially completed. Candle stands and a screen have been ordered. The frame for the image of the Divine Mercy has arrived. The pedestal for the statue of the Virgin Mary and the desk for the A.V. equipment are being built off-site. The piano will be placed at the back of the chapel.

The renovations should be complete before Easter. An invitation will be extended to the bishop to attend for consecration of the chapel.

Upon further discussion during “Upcoming Events”, (see below) it was decided that a blessing of the chapel will occur on Divine Mercy Sunday (April 16) after the 11:00 am Mass. There will be a reception hosted by PC after the 2:00 pm Divine Mercy Liturgy.

Moved that the reception be organized by members of PC. **The motion was approved.**

Action: An invitation will be extended to Bishop McGrattan to consecrate St. Mary's Chapel on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 16.

c) Security Update

There was discussion about the alarm system.

There are changes in access to the Columbarium. A wheelchair accessible door is being constructed. Further, specialized access cards are being provided to the families of those whose remains are in the Columbarium. Card holders can access the Columbarium during the time the church building is open: 8 am to 8 pm. The cards provide an extra level of security for the Columbarium.

Security cameras are located throughout the building.

The break-in that occurred on December 18 is still under investigation by the Calgary Police Service.

NEW ITEMS

a) Art Walk

The Art Walk will take place after Masses this weekend (March 4 & 5) and will end at 7:30 pm on Sunday. Set up will take place on Saturday morning at 9:00 am. This is the first year since the COVID restrictions were lifted that the Art Walk has taken place. There will be 19 artists (all parishioners) displaying their work which includes painting, photography and sculpting.

b) Change of Spelling of Name

Correction to a PC member's name on the contact list.

c) Posting of Council Minutes online

The minutes from the last three meetings are all online. In addition, there is a small section of the bulletin dedicated to PC matters and the link to the minutes is found there.

Action: The minutes from this meeting will be posted online and the content for the PC section of the bulletin updated.

d) Triduum Planning completed on February 23rd

The group that organizes the Triduum held a planning meeting on February 23. Help will be needed for decorating on **Holy Thursday, April 6 at 1:00 pm** and on

Saturday, April 8 at 9:00 am. All are welcome to assist. Please contact Bob at camaro11@shaw.ca

e) Coffee following the 11:00 am Sunday Mass

The team leader of the 9:00 am Coffee Ministry advised that she does not have enough volunteers to host coffee after the 11:00 am Mass. However, the former team leader of the 11:00 am Coffee Ministry indicated that she is willing to regroup the team that was in place prior to the COVID shut down. She will contact her former team members.

Action: Follow up will be made with the former team leader of the 11:00 am Coffee Ministry.

f) Office Hours

A member of PC has been approached by parishioners asking if the current office hours of 9:30 am to 12:00 pm weekdays will be expanded. Fr. Edmund indicated that direction in this regard must come from him and that because we have a smaller staff, the reduced office hours are appropriate. In addition, he is trying to use a pastoral approach, being mindful of employees' needs. He also noted that he is always available on-line to assist parishioners. There will be no change to the office hours at this time.

g) Way of the Cross Booklet

Fr. Edmund distributed the booklet being used this year: **Stations of the Cross** *According to St. Alphonsus Liguori*. It is a traditional as opposed to scriptural approach. (The link to the eBook is included below).

<https://files.ecatholic.com/12494/documents/2019/1/Stations%20of%20the%20Cross%20Booklet%20English.pdf?t=1546888148000>

h) Introduction of Staff to the Parish

A request has been made that the parish staff be introduced to the parish, as a sign of respect to the staff. During discussion it was noted that the names and positions of the staff members are readily available on the website and in the bulletin. Formally introducing staff members during a Mass would not catch all members of the parish. Also, before any steps are taken, consideration must be given to whether the staff want to be formally introduced. There will be no formal introduction of the staff at this time.

i) Memorial Celebration for those who passed away during COVID

A parishioner has requested that a memorial celebration is held for those who passed away during COVID. This idea was met with agreement; it was noted that it will be a good opportunity to build community. Fr. Edmund is willing to preside.

Action: The parishioner will be contacted regarding organization of the memorial celebration.

j) Discussion of the financials on TIA (Together in Action)

SMCC didn't meet the TIA target set by the Diocese for 2022. It could be because no coordinator is in place. A potential candidate for this role has come forward.

Action: The potential candidate will be contacted about taking on the position of Coordinator of TIA for SMCC.

k) Discussion of email from parishioner regarding the Social Committee

The sentiment among PC members is that the issue of forming a Social Committee has been discussed and that we have been asking for volunteers, including a parish-wide appeal in the bulletin. There are already 6 people who are willing to be members of the committee. It was also noted that socials have already been held (i.e., St. Michael's celebration last September) and that more will take place, but are being done differently, e.g., potlucks are not acceptable due to the risk of spreading sickness. Any cooking must be done on-site and in a fashion that is in adherence of health codes.

It was agreed that PC should respond to the email.

Fr. Edmund suggested that we should meet in June to plan events for September 2023 through to and including June 2024.

Action: A response will be prepared and sent to the parishioner.

Action: A planning meeting will be held in June. Date TBA.

UPCOMING EVENTS

a) Hospitality Sign-up Sheets for Holy Week – on-line

A gap analysis was prepared by the Hospitality Coordinator and discussed with Fr. Edmund. Sign up for hospitality for Holy Week and Easter will be done on-line.

Action: Fr. Edmund will give an update on the lack of volunteers in the various ministries in his upcoming report.

b) Liturgical Ministers Lenten Retreat - March 31, 7:00 pm with Fr. Edmund

Advertising for the retreat will start this week. Registration will be through the office.

c) Volunteers required for Holy Week Celebrations

Parishioners are asked to contact Bob directly at camaro11@shaw.ca

d) Holy Week Celebrations:

Holy Thursday – April 6th at 7:00 pm

Good Friday – April 7th at 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm

Easter Vigil – April 8th at 8:00 pm

Easter Sunday – April 9th at 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 5:00 pm

e) Blessing of St. Mary's Chapel

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 16, after the 11:00 am Mass. Reception to follow the 2:00 pm Divine Mercy Liturgy. Please see Agenda Item 2b above.

CLOSING PRAYER & ADJOURNMENT at 8:30 pm