

**ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY (“SMCC”)  
PASTORAL COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2022 @ 7:00 PM**

Present (*In person*): Fr. Vargas, Fr. Hernandez, B. Choquette (Chair), M. Tapuska (Secretary), G. Brand, S. Gaela, L. Iovinelli, N. McIntosh, T. Novecosky, K. Renger, P. Tan, P. Van de Mosselaer

(*By conference call*): A. Bitter, B. Popp

**AGENDA**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Pastoral Council by Canon Law

Review of role of Pastoral Council (“PC”) – as stated in Canon Law “...it strives to discern the movement of the Holy Spirit among God’s people in the parish. Although the Council is not a body which makes binding decisions, the recommendations of the Pastoral Council are to be taken seriously when grounded in prayer, discernment and communal wisdom”. PC is to think of the whole community who are to be represented by members of PC.

- 3/4. Mission Statement and Vision (“MS & V”) – Adopt both as currently stated:

*Mission Statement: Saint Michael Catholic Community is a spirit filled church where all may experience that they are seen, known and loved by God, and who share this encounter with others.*

*Vision: Saint Michael Catholic Community is to be Calgary’s model field hospital; because each believer is a medic sent out to warm the hearts and heal the wounds of the suffering in life.*

There was discussion about how to publicize the MS & V to increase parishioners’ awareness of both. The MS & V can be a reference point for PC; that is, does a particular project or undertaking align with them? The MS & V mark a graduation from a “maintenance” or inward-looking church to a missionary or outward looking church. The book “Divine Renovation: From a Maintenance to a Missional Path” by Fr. James Mallon was the basis for the Strategic Leadership Plan and inspiration for the (now defunct) Strategic Leadership Team in forming the current MS & V.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Introducing PC Members at Sunday Mass:**

PC should be visible and should be introduced at Masses and possibly on the SMCC website.

**Action:** PC will be introduced to parishioners at all Masses on the first Sunday of Advent, November 26 & 27.

### **B. Ministry Weekend, November 5 & 6:**

This event has already been organized. A PC trifold is being prepared which will include photos (head shots) of all members of PC.

**Action:** All members please submit a headshot for the trifold. The PC booth will be staffed by PC members after all Masses on Ministry Weekend.

### **C. Ushering:**

PC members should help to usher at the Mass they attend. This does not involve taking over from what the Hospitality Ministry is already doing, but would add an additional layer of greeters at each Mass.

**Action:** The leaders of the Hospitality Ministry will be notified that members of PC will help with meeting and greeting before Masses.

### **D. Children's Ministry (Kids' Kingdom) & Youth Ministry:**

Discussion around the desirability of re-instituting both programs, which would involve coordinators in place for both. It was noted that so far, we are still unsure about the number of people attending Mass.

**Action:** None at the present. The issue can be revisited.

### **E. Observers at Mass During Communion:**

The Hospitality Ministers acted as Observers when masking was mandatory to ensure communicants consumed the consecrated host immediately. Prior to COVID, there were no Observers during Masses. Many Hospitality Ministers are uncomfortable in the role. It was noted that the Communion Ministers should ensure that the host is consumed by the communicant before the next person in line is given the host.

**Action:** The role of Observer will be discontinued. The Hospitality Ministry will be notified of this. Also, The Eucharistic Ministers will be reminded of the proper procedure for distributing communion.

#### **F. Socialization – Building Community:**

Suggestions for building community such as the coffee ministry, potluck suppers, seniors' ministry, funeral receptions, baptisms during Mass and nametag Sundays were discussed. These should be started again because it's an opportunity to re-establish ministries and provide connection for our parishioners.

Coffee after some Masses hosted by different ministries, mainly the Women's Ministry, has started. Discussion about best time to offer coffee.

Also, there was extensive discussion regarding pre-COVID events and ministries. The requirement for proper administration of the events was mentioned as well as the legality of something like a potluck (what if someone gets food poisoning?).

The issue of when to lock the gate to the Gathering Area and Sanctuary was also discussed as there have been problems in the past with trespassers staying overnight. After discussion, it was decided that the status quo be maintained. The gates will be locked at 8 pm on weekdays and on Saturday and Sunday evenings after each 5 pm Mass and after the 11 am Mass on Sundays.

The return of baptisms during Masses has already started.

**Action:** A Social Committee to be formed. All members of PC please submit the names of 2 people to be on the committee.

**Action:** Name Tag Sunday will be held on the first Sunday of Advent, November 26 & 27, to be facilitated by the Hospitality Ministry prior to all Masses.

PC recommendations: Coffee should be offered only after the 9 am Sunday Mass. A study group (could be a subcommittee of the Social Committee) should be formed to study the legality of potlucks.

#### **G. Transparency:**

**Update to all parishioners on changes to the Day Chapel.** Changes involve moving the Marion Grotto to the front and "homing" the Divine Mercy image currently in the hallway. There are working plans and bids to come, but there still needs to be approval from the Diocese. Parishioners should be made aware of the plans as soon as possible.

A brief history of how the current Marian grotto in the Day Chapel came to be where it is currently situated was given to PC.

**Reinstating of Friday Coffee Ministry.** This ministry was formerly active immediately after the Friday morning weekday Mass, during Eucharistic Adoration. This practice should be discontinued as it is disrespectful to do this during Eucharistic Adoration.

**Adoration Ministry.** This was formerly done on a sign-up basis for parishioners to attend throughout the day on Friday. Sometimes no one is present in the Day Chapel, and it then falls to the priests or staff to be present until a parishioner comes for adoration.

After discussion, it was agreed that it is preferable to maintain the status quo: Holy Hour with Benediction from 9:30 to 10:30 am on Friday mornings, right after Mass. Coffee could be provided at 10:30.

PC Recommendation: Coffee be offered by the Social Committee at 10:30 on Friday mornings.

**Return of the pictorial history of our past clergy.** The pictures of our past pastors should be returned to the south wall, adjacent to the Columbarium. Many parishioners have questions as to what happened to the pictures and would like them returned. It was suggested that each picture be restored on canvas to make all pictures uniform.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **SMCC Advent Mission**

Saturday, November 26, 2022, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Sunday, November 27, 2022, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Theme: *“Advent According to Mary”*

Presenter: *Father Edmund Vargas*

Thank you to Fr. Edmund from PC for giving the 2022 Advent Mission.

### **Steve Bell Concert**

Friday, December 2, 2022, 7:00 pm

### **Holy Name Fundraiser Participation**

The fundraiser is for the benefit of Holy Name School. SMCC has been asked to participate by selling tickets to sit in the front row at the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass. Some of our parishioners are teachers and students at Holy Name school. After discussion, it was unanimously decided that SMCC will not participate in the fundraiser. Coming to Mass should not be something for which people need to buy tickets.

## **Artwalk**

March 4 & 5, 2023

A parishioner is organizing this event. Anyone who wishes to volunteer should contact the office.

### **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Ushers should wear name tags. There was agreement with this suggestion.

**Action:** The office will be contacted about ordering name tags.

Each PC member must give written permission to publish his/her email and phone number, for distribution to, and use by, other members of PC.

**Action:** Each PC member email the Chair with the said requested approval.

**CLOSING PRAYER & ADJOURNMENT** at 8:40 pm.