

PASTORAL COUNCIL OF NATIVITY – ST. CHARLES
MARCH 2, 2006

Present: Fr. Driscoll, Howard Gotell, Tony Morley, Maria Kirkpatrick, Gerry Cormier, Jim Nelson, Geoff deGannes, Lillian Bray, John Kellegrew, Pat Robinson, Frank Allen, Sharon Murphy, Sharon Fairfax, Jeanne Bourque, Darlene White, Susan MacDonald
Regrets: Jim MacDonald, Sister Teresa Currie, Edna Walsh, Terry Laurette, Pauline Pettigrew, Palm Cormier

The meeting was held in Nativity Church Hall at 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 2nd, 2006.

Opening prayer and a video called “Share Lent” outlining the appeal this Lent by Development in Peace.

Minutes from meeting February 2nd, 2006 were approved (Darlene, Sharon M.).

OLD BUSINESS

Diocesan Pastoral meeting held in Springhill on February 21st was attended by Geoff, Father Driscoll, Palm Cormier, Howard Gotell and Manson Gloade.

A workshop on pastoral councils is being held at St. Thomas Moore Parish in Dartmouth on March 18th. Delegates from Amherst include Jim MacDonald, Tony Morley, Jeanne Bourque, Frank Allen, Sharon Murphy, Howard Gotell and Sharon Fairfax.

Tony hoped we would have an answer to Peter Belliveau’s letter when they returned. Tony will write to Peter and Charlie MacInnis acknowledging receipts of their letters to council.

The “ad hoc” committee report on the new Forward in Faith committee was presented by Jim Nelson and Jeanne Bourque. The committee met 3 times to draft their presentation to council.

Suggested Recommendations in brief:

1. Continue review, public consultation and assessment process.
2. Choose the people to do the review, public consultation and assessment.
3. Review committee develops process and timeline.
4. Carry out the review, public consultation and assessment.

The report also outlined 13 suggested tasks for the review committee.

A lengthy discussion followed. Gerry questioned Jeanne on what the overall objective of the committee would be. Tony hoped the recommendations of the first Forward in Faith committee would be addressed. Gerry feels someone has to make a decision and **get on** with the process. Sharon Fairfax hoped that if any major renovations are required to either parish they would be delayed until after the new committee has made a final decision.

A motion “to accept the recommendations of the ad hoc committee on the composition of the new Forward in Faith committee, the mandate of this committee will be to bring recommendation to pastoral council and the archdiocese on which facility to close.”

Motion passed.

PASTOR’S REPORT

1. The general life of the parishes over the past month as been very well. We had a large turnout at the pot-luck supper even though it was postponed due to bad weather. The pancake brunch and CWL pancake supper were also well attended.
2. It has been a very busy month in the office with preparing income tax receipts, financial report for the parish, diocese and government as well as the ordinary everyday things in parish life.
3. We have begun the Season of Lent with two full services on Sunday and a full season of events up to Easter. We have scheduled the Little Rock Series for adults, Angie Roy and her associates have planned another Think Fast, and the choirs have accepted to ministry at evening prayer each Sunday.
4. The new approach in the Confirmation class is going well.
5. We will be supporting the Development and Peace campaign again this year.
6. Father urges all members of the council to participate in the workshop on parish councils being held in Dartmouth later this month.

NEW BUSINESS

Darlene White would like to see the new name of the Amherst parishes being adopted as soon as possible to enable the CWLs to amalgamate. Howard proposed that a group get together to discuss the issue and report to the next pastoral council meeting, Darlene, Howard and Sharon Fairfax volunteered.

It was reported that 4 parishioners from Havelock Terrace required transportation to mass; Howard will publish in the next bulletin.

Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting Thursday, April 6th at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted;

Pat Robinson