

Župniski Pastoralni Svet – Brezmadežna Čudodelne Svetinje (Toronto)
Parish Pastoral Council – Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (Toronto)

Parish Council Mission Statement

*To enhance and develop the spiritual well-being for each parishioner,
Individually, as well as part of the community, through liturgy, evangelization,
Good news and charitable works.*

MEETING MINUTES

October 15, 2013

Attendees:

Cvetka Andrejaš
Father Antonio Burja
Robert Ferkul
Sonya Horvat
John Jereb
Rozika Nesich
Andrej Pahulje
Paula Petersen
Milan Vinčec

Representing:

Church Office
Associate Pastor
Planika / Mladi Glas
Catechists
Ushers / Bartenders
Catholic Women's League
Church Organist
Scouts
Slovenian School

Regrets:

Father Valentin Batič
Josephine Žilavec

Pastor
Nageljčki / Nagelj

The meeting discussions were as follows:

<u>No.:</u>	<u>Discussion:</u>	<u>Action:</u>
1.0	<u>Opening Prayer</u> Fr. Burja began the meeting with prayers. In honour of October being the month of the rosary, we prayed a decade of the rosary.	Info.
2.0	<u>Review of Minutes:</u> a. Need for additional parish members. b. Results of Church Schedule changes. c. Planned events for the feast of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. d. Future events.	Sonya Horvat
3.0	<u>Parish Council Members</u> a. New representatives for non-represented groups will be invited. Fr. Burja will attempt to find representatives for Apostolic Circle, Prayer Group, Church farm, St. Vincent DePaul society, Servers. Paula Petersen will inquire with the choir and the readers. b. Announcements can also be made in the church to let people know that they are welcome to attend meetings if they are interested, even if they are not members of the council.	Fr. Burja / Paula Petersen

- 4.0 Year of Faith Info.
The theme for the next church year has not be announced yet.
- 5.0 Church Schedule Info.
 a. A survey was distributed in the bulletin inquiring about the following changes: start regular year masses 15 minutes earlier than they start now (i.e. 8:00 a.m.; 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m. English); change Saturday mass to 5:00 p.m.; change the English mass from the last one to an earlier mass time (i.e. at 9:30), resulting in the Slovenian masses at both 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (Saturday mass would remain in Slovenian).
 b. Results:
 Time change – 167 yes / 30 no / 13 no opinion
 Saturday mass time change – 164 yes / 11 no / 35 no opinion
 Language change – 84 yes / 97 no / 29 no opinion
 Parishioners took the initiative and requested a time change for Friday evening mass from 7:30 to 6:30. This request will take place.
 c. **Effect of Survey:**
 Regular church schedule masses will be at 8:00; 9:30; 11:00 (English)
 Saturday mass time: 5:00 p.m.
 Friday evening mass time: 6:30 p.m.
 New schedule takes effect this Friday, October 18th.
 As a result of the new Sunday schedule, catechism classes will be: 9:30 – 10:45 for Confirmation; 9:45 – 10:45 for First Holy Communion.
 d. Many people offered comments that reflected their “vote”. It was very evident in comments regarding the English mass being moved that people felt that the Slovenian heritage of the church was being threatened. Other comments included the lack of effort of the younger generation to put in the effort in the life of the church as the original members did; revenue loss for coffee if times changed; more programs for youth; more positive homilies; tardiness for masses; respect for the elders of the church.
- 6.0 Effect of the Latest Survey Info.
 We received good responses from the survey about the mass time changes. Despite the short time allowed to prepare the survey, it was well responded to. It was a good way to get a pulse of how people felt about the future of the church. Continuing to keep this type of communication with the congregation will help get people more involved in the direction of the church. Future surveys should be considered when decisions such as these are required.
 A suggestion box can also be placed in the back of the church for more ideas to be shared. This can be done with the understanding that these are suggestions and that not every idea will be entertained.

- 7.0 Mass for Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Info.
- a. Celebrating the feast of the Miraculous Medal will be held on November 17th (second last Sunday of the church year). To celebrate this day parishioners will be asked to donate baked goods that will be distributed with free coffee after each mass. The Catholic Women’s League will assist with this. Different church groups will assist in the readings and offertory during each of the masses:
 First Mass – Slovenian School to read and assist with offertory;
 Second Mass – Regular readers, dance group to assist with offertory (in their nosas);
 English Mass – Scouts to read; catechism students to assist with offertory.
- b. Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal medals prayer cards will be distributed after masses by the alter servers (one per family).
- c. Priests to discuss how the miraculous medal came to be during mass.
- d. Discussion to have a pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Miraculous Medal to be considered in the future.
- 8.0 Events Calendar: Info.
- a. Will be posted in the foyer. It was suggested that a copy of all future events be provided in the bulletin so that people can plan ahead.
- b. Fr. Burja provided a draft of the schedule for both churches.
- 9.0 Sunday Coffee: Info.
- Despite requests for coffee to be available for parishioners after English mass, attendance after mass is very poor to non-existent.
- 10.0 Eucharistic Ministers Info.
- There is a need for Eucharistic ministers, particularly at the Slovenian masses.
- 11.0 Next Meeting Info.
- The next parish council meeting will be held on November 18th at 7:00.

These minutes have been prepared by:

Sonya Horvat