

**Pastoralni Svet – Brezmadežna Čudodelne Svetinje (Toronto)**

**Pastoral Council – Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (Toronto)**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting #8 – January 10, 2011**

### Attendees:

Cvetka Andrejaš  
Father Valentin Batič  
Father Antonio Burja  
Mojca Dimperio  
Robert Ferkul  
Marjeta Franc  
Sonya Horvat  
John Jereb  
Sr. Kristina  
Rozika Nesich  
Andrej Pahulje  
Cody Petersen  
Paula Petersen  
Laurie Ulcar  
Millie Ulcar  
Milan Vinčec  
Josephine Žilavec

### Representing:

Church Secretary  
Pastor  
Priest  
Women's Choir (Naša Pesem)  
Planika / Mladi Glas  
Slovenian Apostolic Circle  
Catechists  
Usher / Bartenders  
Sisters of Mary  
Catholic Women's League  
Church Organist  
Scouts  
Scouts  
Children's Choirs  
Otroški Kotiček  
Slovenian School  
Nageljčki / Nagelj

### **No.      Discussion:**

1.      Distribution of Agenda  
An agenda was distributed to all attendees.
  
2.      Opening Prayer  
Fr. Burja began the meeting with a prayer to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Parish. This prayer has been distributed to the parishioners with the intent of saying it at each mass. The prayer is attached.
  
3.      Previous Minutes  
Milan Vincec reviewed the minutes of the last meeting held November 29, 2010.
  - a. Christmas Celebrations – a comment was made to Fr. Batič about why Fr. Burja was missing from Christmas mass. It must be understood by the parishioners that the priests are divided between serving at both Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal and at Our Lady Help of Christians Church on Manning. It was also an extremely busy season because there were also four funerals and there was a lot to prepare for the priests. There is a general shortage

of priests and this is no different for our parishes as it is all around the world. The decisions for who will be saying what mass, where, is between Fr. Batič and Fr. Burja is agreed to mutually.

- b. There was a record number of attendees for the Christmas Eve mass. The good weather was probably helpful in this regard.
- c. A note of gratitude and congratulations to all that made the Christmas season such a memorable one. Thank you for your efforts, hard work and enthusiastic energy.
- d. Mojca Dimperio noted that the choir loft should be made available only to choir members as it is not safe for too many people to be up there.
- e. Fr. Batič made a suggestion to have midnight mass changed to an earlier time (perhaps 10:00). Some disagreed. We can discuss this again perhaps next year.
- f. Andy Pahulje suggested if someone else (perhaps the Gospodarski zbor) could bring in the Christmas trees into the church as it is a big job for just one person. To date he has been responsible for this.

#### 4. Easter Retreat

- a. Father Claudio – Upon our request to change the retreat to a 3-day event instead of a week event, Fr. Claudio commented that he never did a short retreat and would think about it. When he finally did get back to us, he informed us that he had double-booked that weekend and so it would not be possible for him to do a retreat with us.
- b. An attempt to have a bishop from the Northwest Territories, who created a large buzz at a University of Toronto presentation, was also contacted to perhaps come and speak at our church, but his schedule would not allow that.
- c. A call was made to Fr. Marko Lavrencic who is in charge of all the priests in Toronto to see if he could recommend someone. This will be followed-up. Mojca also suggested that she may be able to provide some names of excellent speakers that can speak at the retreat.
- d. Fr. Batič suggested that the retreat be more than just three masses, perhaps a reconciliation service and a presentation. The service can be open-ended. A reconciliation service would include an opening prayer, readings (e.g. the Prodigal Son), a gospel of Jesus' forgiveness and healing, homily and then an examination of conscience, a psalm and a concluding prayer.
- e. The Archbishop of Ljubljana was contacted and we were informed that he cannot come for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. As we were hoping for him to be here, Fr. Pavle Novak said he will try to convince him to come.
- f. An Easter Retreat committee will be organized to plan and prepare for this event. If anyone has any suggestions, they can email Sonya Horvat with their comments.  
\*\*\* Since the meeting a number of people have volunteered to be a part of this committee. They include: Paula Petersen, Laurie Ulcar, Mojca Dimperio, Milan Vincec.
- g. A suggestion was made to have a separate event just for children perhaps on the Saturday morning. This idea can be explored as well.

#### 5. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Yearbook:

So far we have just under 300 families / individuals who have come forward to have their photos taken for the yearbook; a disappointing outcome. There was a good showing this past Sunday with new appointments made. Another Sunday will need to be arranged.

Several groups still need to have their photos done, including the Parish Council. Group leaders need to contact Rozi Nesich to arrange this.

A yearbook committee will need to be created to help in the assembly of the yearbook.

Also, a suggestion to have a banquet on the Saturday (i.e. May 27<sup>th</sup>).

Another suggestion to prepare a video montage of the history of the church.

Also, a comment was made about people contributing comments about their particular group to be included in the yearbook and that group's photo.

6. Upcoming Events:
- a. Scouts are planning their annual Scouts Banquet on January 29.
  - b. February 13 – Family Day events; Polka Mass / Banquet; also a group of students / singers are coming from Slovenia
  - c. End of February – Slovenian Apostolic Circle will be holding their annual Tombola. Marjeta Franc asked if there are any groups that can assist. She suggested some of the older scout members (possibly to fulfill any high school volunteer hours). The Tombola is a lot of work to put together (set-up, kitchen help, prize distribution, clean-up, etc.). Volunteers would be appreciated.
  - d. April 3 – General assembly of Kanadski-Slovenski kongres. An opera singer from Argentina will be coming. Also Janez Janša (Slovenian opposition leader) will be coming to Toronto for a visit (will then proceed to Ottawa). It would be nice to have a large showing in the hall for these events.
  - e. May 1 & 15 – First Communion and Confirmation ceremonies.
  - f. End of May – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events.
  - g. June 5<sup>th</sup> – Annual Dom Lipa Walk-a-thon.
7. Birthdays:
- a. Unfortunately Mr. Križman broke his hip and is in a wheelchair and is staying at Dom Lipa. This makes doing something in the church not an option, because he cannot walk much. It will have to be done at Dom Lipa.
  - b. Many people are inquiring about what is being done for Fr. Zrnec. It was agreed that well wishes would be extended to him after second mass on January 30<sup>th</sup>. It was further suggested that a sweet table can be set up in the hall for those interested in joining the celebrations.
8. Next Meeting  
The next meeting has been scheduled for **January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011 at 8:00 p.m.**  
Items to be included in the agenda include: plans for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary (e.g. will we have a banquet, garden party, other?); volunteers for the yearbook; updates on on-going matters.
9. Conclusion:  
We concluded the meeting with a prayer.

These minutes have been prepared by:  
Sonya Horvat

### **Opening Prayer**

#### **Prayer for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Parish**

God our Father,  
Give your Holy Spirit to us in abundance  
So that we may be attentive to Christ,  
Embrace His gift of salvation  
And recast our life according to His Word.  
May this time of preparation and renewal  
For the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish  
Bring us closer to one another in Christ.  
Let us become a vibrant Church  
For salvation of the world.  
Mary the Mother of Our Saviour and our Mother,  
Intercede for our conversion,  
Renew our families and bless our communities. Amen.

#### **Molitev za Župnijo ob 50-Letnici**

Bog, naš Oče,  
Podeli vsem nam v obilni meri Svetega Duha,  
Da bomo prisluhnili Kristusu,  
Sprejeli njegov dar odrešenja  
In svoje življenje prenovili po njegovi besedi.  
Čas duhovne obnove ob 50-letnici župnije  
Naj nas v Kristusu zbliža med seboj,  
Da bomo postali živa Cerkev za rešitev sveta.  
Marija, Odrešenikova in naša Mati,  
Izprosi nam spreobrnjenje,  
Prenovi naše družine  
In posveti naše skupnosti. Amen.