33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
November 20, 2016

REPORT OF OCTOBER 24th OPEN MEETING AT ST. PIUS X PARISH

The second in a series of open parish meetings was held on Monday, October 24th, 2016 in the Parish Hall. The purpose of this meeting was to continue the conversation about developing a vision and strategic plan for the Parish. The meeting was called to order and led in an opening prayer by Fr. Earl Smith, SJ. The session was attended by 51 people and facilitated by Doreen Neville.

Based upon (a) discussions at the first open meeting on June 28th and (b) feedback received from parishioners in response to the report from that first meeting, a Proposed Strategic Directions document (consisting of a draft vision, principles, key directions and examples of possible priority actions) was developed and circulated to the parish community in mid October. Participants in the October 24th meeting were organized in small groups and asked to respond to the draft Proposed Strategic Directions document and then provide their comments to the full group.

Due to time constraints, the facilitator asked that the groups focus on the first two pages of the document: foundational statement, vision, values, principles and key directions. The feedback we received guided the revisions to these statements which are attached in Version 2 of the Proposed Strategic Directions document. This version does not include the examples of possible priority actions. Discussion of specific priority actions which need to be pursued will be developed at a series of meetings early in 2017.

Participants also suggested a variety of ways to obtain more parishioner feedback on the future of the Parish, several of which are being pursued. Recently, attendees at Saturday evening and both Sunday Masses were provided time during Mass to provide input into two questions:

(1) How can the parish help you, both now and in the future? and
(2) How can you help the parish?

Comments received are currently being reviewed and will help shape the next version of the key directions document, particularly with respect to identification of priority actions which need to be pursued.
SCRIPTURE READINGS
FOR NEXT SUNDAY
November 27

You could read/discuss/pray with your family, with friends or by yourself.

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5
Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14
Psalm: 122
Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

FR. EARL DREAMS

Our parish’s planning process will surprisingly continue into 2017. The volume, quality and diverse content of parishioners’ opinions during the weekend of November 5-6, 2016 means more time is required to do them justice. As Advent and Christmas Seasons are fast approaching us, a series of open parish meetings will be held early in the new year focused on the ‘action’ portion of the Proposed Strategic Directions document.

SAINTS SPEAK

Jesus lived His life in complete dependence upon God, as we all ought to live our lives. But such dependence does not destroy human personality. Man is never so fully and so truly personal as when he is living in complete dependence upon God. This is how personality comes into its own. This is humanity at its most personal.

Donald M. Baillie (1887-1954), God was in Christ: An Essay on Incarnation and Atonement, Scribner, 1955, p. 93

It is no strain of metaphor to say that the love of God and the wrath of God are the same thing, described from opposite points of view. How we shall experience it depends upon the way we shall come up against it: God does not change; it is our moral state that changes. The wrath of God is a figure of speech to denote God’s unchanging opposition to sin; it is His righteous love operating to destroy evil. It is not evil that will have the last word, but good; not sorrow, but joy; not hate, but love.


The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult; and left untried. G. K. Chesterton (1874-1936), English orator and lay theologian

RESOLUTIONS

At the National Convention of the CWL, several resolutions were introduced. We continue this week with Home Care.

Whereas, the Canada Health Act recognizes home care as an “extended health service” not an “insured health service” to which the principles of the Act apply; and

Whereas, Insured health services are fully funded by government and delivered based on the patient's need, not their ability to pay; and

Whereas, Through its legislative role, the federal government can facilitate national approaches and standards that must be satisfied by provincial/territorial health care insurance plans; therefore, be it

Resolved that National Council of the CWL, in the 96th annual National Convention assembled, urge the federal government to amend the Canada Health Act to include home care as an insured health service.

Action: Write to Hon. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister; Hon. Jane Philpott, Minister of Health; and Hon. Nick Whalen, Federal Minister.

Christmas Pyjamas

The CWL will continue the hugely successful pyjama project this year. If any parishioners want to donate new pyjamas, boxes labeled “Christmas Pyjamas”, are placed at the Church and Chapel entrances this weekend November 19th and 20th, 2016. Deadline for donations is November 27th, 2016. Many thanks in advance for your continued generosity.

Advent Dinner

The CWL is inviting all parishioners and friends to join us for an Advent Dinner and Prayer Service on Wednesday, December 7. Doors open at 5:30 pm. Dinner will begin at 6 pm. Tickets, $20, can be purchased by contacting Cecilia Fitzpatrick - 722-2648 or the Parish Office - 754-0170.

MUN CHAPLAINCY NEWS

On Sunday, November 27th, 2016 the MUN evening Mass will be at 5 pm. This will enable students and the public to attend a service of Lessons and Carols at 7 pm in The Breezeway on the first floor of the University Centre.

The Masses December 4th and 11th, 2016 will be at 7 pm. December 11th will be our last Sunday evening Mass for 2016.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

November 5 and 6: $3,564.15
November 12 and 13: $4,006.05
Thank you for your continued generous support.
**ADVENT ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE**

**Advent Tree of Stars**

This year we are invited our children/youth to bring a non-perishable food item on each Sunday of Advent and place it under our *Advent Tree*. The children can then hang a star on the tree, as a sign of our giving life and hope to everyone who needs it. The tree will have a prominent location as you come in through the main entrance of the Church.

**Socks and Underwear**

We are asking for donations of new socks and underwear (adult size) for guests of The Gathering Place. You will find a special box near the Advent Tree of Stars near the entrance of the Church.

**Michael J. Ward Advent Brunch and Mitten Tree Donation**

The *Advent Brunch*, sponsored by the Parish Life Committee, will be held *Sunday, December 4* in the *Parish Hall* following the 11 am Mass (approximately *12 noon*). Brunch will include sausages, french toast, beverage and dessert. There will be no charge for the event but parishioners are asked to bring a donation of a new hat and mittens. Financial donations toward this cause will also be accepted. These contributions will be distributed with the Christmas hampers.

**FIRST SPIRITUAL EXERCISES - UPDATE**

Participants of the *First Spiritual Exercises* (Workshops) are invited to a gathering on *Wednesday, November 23rd, 2016, 7 pm* in the *Church*. There will be follow up reflection and a prayer 'taster' to share with each other.

**ANNUAL MEMORIAL VIGIL SERVICE**

The *Annual Memorial Vigil Service* to remember our recently deceased will be held next *Sunday, November 27, 2016, 7 pm* in the *Church*. We remember our deceased parishioners who died during the past year (November, 2015 - November, 2016). Following the Vigil, a reception will be held in the Parish Hall.

We are very appreciative of Mabel and Paul Ryan, Nina and Phil Beresford, who meet with families as they prepare for the funerals. We much appreciated Lucy and Pat Fleming, Bernice and Ron Kieley who helped out in the past, but due to health concerns, are unable to do so at this time.

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - NOVEMBER 20, 2016**

Our annual Christmas Bazaar will be held this *Sunday, November 20, 2016 from 2 - 4 pm* in the *Parish Hall*. This year we will be having a Silent Auction and one wheel along with all of our great tables. All are welcome to attend.

**CHRISTMAS HAMPER NEWS**

**Christmas Hamper Donations**

Our Parish is now preparing for the Christmas Hampers. Last year we distributed approximately 120 hampers and we expect a similar number of requests this year. If you are considering financially supporting this activity, it would be very much appreciated. Please mark the envelope *CHRISTMAS HAMPER DONATION*. Please include your name, address and envelope number.

**Registration for Christmas Hampers**

If any parishioner, living within the geographical boundaries of this Parish, requires assistance at Christmas time, and has not registered a request, would you please do so by calling the *Parish Office - 754-0170* as plans are now being made. *Deadline for registration is Thursday, December 1*.

**10 THOUSAND VILLAGES SALE**

Help Impoverished Peoples in the Developing World: Buy Fair Trade Handcrafted Christmas Gifts. A Ten Thousand Villages Sale, sponsored by the Mercy Centre for Ecology and Justice and Development and Peace will be held at *The Lantern, 35 Barnes Road* on *Thursday, November 24, 2016 from 12:30 to 8:30 pm*; on *Friday, November 25, 2016 from 10 am to 8:30 pm* and on *Saturday, November 26, 2016 from 10 am to 3 pm*. Admission is free.

**OUR ‘PIUS’ SMILE**

There was a man walking alone along a beach. He comes across a bottle with a cork in it. The man picks up the bottle and pulls out the cork. A loud roar follows and a genie appears. The genie says to the man, “I’m a little tired today and I can only give you two wishes.”

The man says “That’s OK, two is enough.” “First, I would like one-billion dollars in a Swiss bank account.”

Poof - The genie hands the man a paper and says “Here’s the number to your account.”

The man says “Next the man says, “Second, I would like to be irresistible to women.”

Poof - the genie turned him into a box of chocolates.
**Calendar of Services, Mass Intentions and Activities**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun. Nov. 20</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Mass <strong>CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY</strong></td>
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<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Mass <strong>CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Christmas Bazaar - Parish Hall</strong></td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>MUN Roman Catholic Chaplaincy Mass</strong> - <strong>St. John’s College Chapel</strong></td>
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<td>Mon. Nov. 21</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Mass <strong>Thistle and Hannaford Families</strong></td>
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<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Chapel</strong></td>
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<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Mass <strong>Prayers for the Sick and Dying</strong></td>
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<td>Tues. Nov. 22</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Mass <strong>Hughie Coady; Holden and Coady Families</strong></td>
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<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Mass <strong>Nolan and Foley Families</strong></td>
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<td>Wed. Nov. 23</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Mass <strong>John Wadden</strong></td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>First Spiritual Exercises Gathering - Church</strong></td>
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<td>Thurs. Nov. 24</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Mass <strong>Patricia Doyle</strong></td>
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<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Choir Practice - Church</strong></td>
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<td>Fri. Nov. 25</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Mass <strong>Prayers for the Sick and Dying</strong></td>
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<td>Sat. Nov. 26</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Mass <strong>Parish Intention</strong></td>
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<td>4:45 pm</td>
<td>Mass <strong>1st Sunday of Advent</strong></td>
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<td>Sun. Nov. 27</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Mass <strong>1st Sunday of Advent</strong></td>
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<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Mass <strong>1st Sunday of Advent</strong></td>
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<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>MUN Roman Catholic Chaplaincy Mass</strong> - <strong>St. John’s College Chapel</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Memorial Vigil Service - Church</strong></td>
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**WEBSITES:** Three to recommend are:
- [www.jesuits.ca](http://www.jesuits.ca)
- [www.ignatianspirituality.com](http://www.ignatianspirituality.com)
- [www.jesuitresources.org](http://www.jesuitresources.org)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**
- Saturday: 3:30 - 4:20 pm
- Tuesday: 6:40 - 7:20 pm

**TIMES OF Masses:**
- Monday and Tuesday: 9:30 am and 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 9:30 am
- Saturday: 9:30 am and 4:45 pm; Sunday: 8:30 and 11 am

**Baptisms:** Second Sunday of the month. **Time:** 1 pm in the Church.
Please call the Parish Office (754-0170) **ONE MONTH** in advance

**Pre-Baptismal Course:** Call the Parish Office for more details.

**Marriages:** By appointment SIX MONTHS in advance
- Marriage Preparation Course required

**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday, 9 am - 12 noon and 12:30 - 4:30 pm;
- Telephone: 754-0170
- E-mail: stpiusx@nl.rogers.com

**Chairperson of Parish Council:** 726-7236
**Director of Music:** 747-5874 or 753-6997