



**PARISH OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD
PASTORAL COUNCIL
RECORD OF REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY September 29, 2022 at 6:30pm -In person and
Virtual**

2021-2022 Pastoral Council Officers

President: Fr. David Raymond

Chair: Leah Girardin (St. Mary's – Presque Isle)

Vice-Chair:

Secretary: Theresa Fowler (St. Mary's – Presque Isle)

Parish of the Precious Blood Mission Statement

We, the members of the Parish of the Precious Blood, believe we have been called by God to use our time, talent and treasure to serve God and his children. We seek to be a community of faith, hope and love in unions with the Holy Spirit.

Empowered by the Eucharist, we are dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus taught by the Roman Catholic Church through prayer, worship, sacraments, education and service. We renew our dedication to the Fr., Son and Holy Spirit, attempting always, in all things, to love as Jesus loves.

Members & Attendees Present:

In Person: Janet Beckwith, Pastoral Life Coordinator; Leah Girardin, Chair, St. Mary's; Theresa Fowler, Secretary, St. Mary's; Pam Murchison, H.O.P.E; Mary Ellen Field, Worship & Spirituality; Betty Thompson, Sacred Heart; Rosemary Hede, St. Theresa; Father Dave, President/Pastor; Father Simon, Parochial Vicar

Virtually: Hilary Blanchard, Youth Ministry Director, Don Blanchette, Holy Rosary; Father Tony, Parochial Vicar; Sean Diette, St. Catherine; Christine Grover, St. Mark's

Absent and Excused: Pat Lyons, Our Lady of the Lake; Martha Frank, Parish Financial Coordinator; Mark Bourgoine, St. Louis (excused);

Absent: John Blanchard, Chair Faith Formation Commission

- 1. Meeting called to Order** at 6:41 by Chairperson: Leah Girardin
- 2. Opening Prayer** led by Fr. Dave

3. Approval of Minutes:

Approval of August Minutes

Moved: **Betty Thompson**

Seconded: **Don Blanchette - Motion carried**

4. Old Business:

- a. **CLI** – This group continues to meet. They have established priorities for the Parish. The priorities are Eucharist, Community, Witness.
The Eucharistic Revival and emphasis on the Living Presence of Christ in the Eucharist supports our first priority. On October 15, the Diocese respectfully requests all Church Council Chairs, Committee Chairs, Finance Committee and other lay leaders to attend a full day of meetings focused on reacquainting us with the true meaning of the Holy Eucharist. **All attending must let Janet know prior to October 13 as food will be provided.**
- b. **Soul Count** – Soul Count is to be done again for the month of October. Please provide this information to the office weekly.
- c. **Harvest Mass** – Approximately 100 people attended. It was a wonderful event.
- d. **Lector Retreat** – These have been held at St. Mark's (7 people attended) and St. Mary's (15 people attended), Father Dave will be holding one on October 8 for those who have not been able to attend previously.
- e. **Gathering at Pat & Rick Lyons** – A beautiful day, great time with wonderful hosts.

5. New Business

- a. **St. Mary's Rectory** – Chris Carroll spoke to the Council about his interest in purchasing the St. Mary's Rectory. He wants to convert the building into housing for elderly and those in transition from Homeless to independence. We discussed the need to have a Priest living close to the Church. There was a lot of discussion which ended with Chris offering to prepare a full proposal and work with us to convert the Albert House to a residence. Father Dave was going to discuss the issue with the Diocese.
- b. **St. Catherine's to Host 2023 Parish Picnic** – Planning will start soon and volunteers from all churches will be asked to help St. Catherine's prepare for this event.
- c. **Vice-Chair and end of Terms** – Sean Diette said he is willing to serve as St. Catherine's representative for another term. Discussion of Vice Chair and other openings will be discussed in October.
- d. **Pastoral/Financial Handbook** – Janet will email this information to Council members. We can then print it ourselves if we choose. Father Dave is working on updating Policies & Procedures

6. Commission Reports

- a. **Worship and Spirituality: Mary Ellen Field** – See attached report

- b. **H.O.P.E: Pam Murchison** – See attached report. The group has been renamed Social Ministry. They meet the second Monday of every month and would encourage all Churches to send a representative. They are still discussing Emergency Shelter. Pam attended the Aroostook Stakeholders meeting which deals with homelessness.
- c. **Faith Formation Commission: Jon Blanchard** – See 2 attached reports
- d. **Youth Ministry: Hillary Blanchard** – See attached report. Planning to establish small groups in each church.

7. Pastoral Update

The Diocese sent a representative to the Parish to look at all structures. We will receive a report soon. Father Dave is excited about the meetings on October 15. Martha Frank's sister passed away this past week. The Parish sent a plant arrangement.

A reminder that there will be a Faith Formation Candlelight Rosary on October 7 at 7:00pm at Holy Rosary which is open to all.

8. Next Meeting: October 27, 2022 - 6:30pm

9. Closing Prayer: Fr. Dave

10. Adjournment 7:55pm

Not part of the meeting but a reminder that Confirmation and First Communion will be celebrated at Holy Rosary on October 30th.

Parish of the Precious Blood
Worship and Spirituality Commission
MINUTES
Wednesday, September 21, 2022
Zoom Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) We discussed the Holy Relics of the Passion Program hosted by the Followers of the Cross, Bob and Martha Letasz, held during June 2022. Those of us present felt it was wonderfully done and talking with Parishioners and people from other church locations; we heard nothing negative. People were impressed with the information provided for each relic, the professionalism of the presentation, and mostly the reverence given throughout the whole presentation.
- 2) No other old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) **September 25, 2022, “Franciscan Way of Life.”** “The rule and life of the Secular Franciscan is this: to observe the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by following Saint Francis of Assisi, who made Christ the inspiration and the center of his life with God and people.” The guest speaker at Holy Rosary will be Lynette Dobbs. She will provide an overview of the Franciscan Way of Life, what it is, the process, and commitment. The talk will take place after Sunday Mass downstairs at Holy Rosary Church. It will not be any longer than one hour.
- 2) **October 15 Training for Staff and Leaders within the church, entitled “Real Presence”.** The training will begin at 10:00 a.m. and run until 1:30 p.m. This is part of our Eucharistic Revival. Holy Rosary will be hosting the training for our area. Four regional formation days for parish leaders are being planned as part of the diocesan phase of the National Eucharistic Revival. The focus will be on the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Pastor/administrators are encouraged to invite staff and local leaders to participate. More information will be forthcoming. Lunch will be provided.
- 3) **Holiday Calendar.** The draft template is complete; however, it has to be approved by Fr. Dave before it is released.
- 4) **Frank Runyeon, May 2023 timeframe, Sermon on the Mount.** Runyeon sets the famous Sermon in a revealing new setting: as told by the apostle Matthew to the church in Antioch, shortly after the Roman army has burned Jerusalem to the ground. Frank discusses, with humor, the very different beatitudes the media are teaching us, and the choices we face daily as Americans and as people of faith. You can go to his website and read about his presentation. Pastoral Council, Worship and Spirituality, and Holy Rosary Church Council will be helping to host this event. We would like to invite the whole Deanery. Any money donated during this event would be given to help support the poor/homeless in our local area. Frank Runyeon said, he will contribute a portion of his honorarium to our effort to the poor and homeless.
- 5) **Lector Training.** Lector Training went well in Presque Isle and Ashland. Holy Rosary still has to hold their Lector Training. A date will be scheduled and announced.
- 6) **Altar Server and Eucharistic Minister Training Schedule.** A date has to be scheduled.
- 7) **Sign-up Sunday for Small Groups, Oct 2, 9, and 10.** We will be doing small groups for Advent and Lent Season. Typically the small groups run for 6 weeks. The church has books; some are lectionary based, but others are non-lectionary. It is up to the group leaders which type they would like to use. Let Janet know as soon as you have a leader for small groups so the process will be complete and ready for the season.
- 8) **Memorial Book for “All Souls” Need to prepare.** We should locate our Memorial Book, replace pages, and have it ready for October 1 and 2 in our churches. This will give parishioners time to put their loved ones names in the book for the presentation of the book on the Altar.

- 9) **Yearly Books for Each Church: Lector Book, Respond and Acclaim, Prayers of Faithful, Ordos, and Today's Liturgy.** At our next Worship and Spirituality meeting, we will be meeting in person at the Holy Rosary Parish Center. The books will be given to each W&S Chairperson to bring back to their respective churches. We are doing it like we do Palms this year. Last year there were issues of people not getting their books or the wrong person receiving them, and this is our attempt to rectify the issue.

NEXT MEETING: Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 6:00 p.m. at the Holy Rosary Parish Center.

Mary Ellen Field
Worship and Spirituality, Chairperson

Parish Counsel Report Youth Ministry September 2022

September Events

Clothing Event/Sale: Benefit youth ministry and Recovery Aroostook. Made 1556.37

Movie In the Dark: Top Gun Maverick – 21 in attendance.

County Catholics – Testimony from Zach Cowperthwait – 4 in attendance

Summit on the Summit – Mass on Haystack with picnic to follow – 22 In Attendance

Administration:

Psychological First Aid Training Completed 6hr

Training on Sacramental Imagination Completed 1hr

Training on Ministering to our New Generation Completed 1hr

Charitable Giving:

Check sent for 778.18 to Recovery Aroostook

October Plans:

Scott Hahn – High Schoolers and their parents. We purchased 15 tickets and 12 are already given.

Purchasing one table of 8 at the Harvest Ball

Kristen Cox will be October's County Catholic to share her testimony

Preparing freezer meals for families to prep for a busy "extracurricular season."

PARISH OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD
Faith Formation Brief Report
Tuesday, September 6, 2022
5:15 PM – In Person and Virtual on Zoom

1. Meeting called to order.

Present: Fr. Tony, Hillary Blanchard, Cindy Gagnon, Janet Beckwith.

2. Opening Prayer: Fr. Tony

3. New Site Coordinator at St. Mary's – Beth Bellamy.

4. Approved the Faith Formation Calendar for 2022-2023.

5. Ordering books needed for Faith Formation classes as needed.

6. Collecting Registration and Medical Release Forms.

7. Catechetical Sunday, Sept. 18, 2022 Recognized all Catechists on Catechetical Sunday at Mass.

8. Next Meeting Tues., **Oct. 4, 2022** at 6:00 PM.

PARISH OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD
Faith Formation Brief Report
Tuesday, May 31, 2022
5:15 PM – In Person and Virtual on Zoom

1. Meeting called to order.

Present: Fr. Tony, Hillary Blanchard, Cindy Gagnon, Theresa Bonner, Janet Beckwith.

2. Opening Prayer: Fr. Tony

3. Meetings:

Fr. Tony stated it is important to have regular meetings with one focus at each meeting. It is also important not to postpone meetings. The focus of this meeting was on Youth Ministry.

Theresa Bonner recommends that it is important to report on what you did and what you are going to do.

Fr. Tony: There are many competing activities for parents.

4. Meeting with past Youth Ministry Leaders: Theresa reported that she met with past leaders of Youth Ministry; Maggie Smith, Jeanine Morneault, Corey Morin, Theresa Bonner and Leah Girardin and asked them,
What were the challenges?
What were the successes?
What are your suggestions?

Challenges:

Church is not a priority.

What's important to the parents is where the priority is.

The time Youth Ministry meetings are held doesn't work.

Successes:

Healthy relationships are formed.

Parents are involved.

Teaching is done.

Social gatherings.

5. Hillary's Proposal:

We need to have a focus for our meetings.

Attend sports and community gatherings that youth are involved in.

Each worship site needs a YM Coordinator

Bring back the Youth Mass at each site.

Host more Diocesan events in the North.

Reach out to parents.

Go where the kids are.

Collect schedules of all sporting events and plan to attend them.

6. Cindy Gagnon:

Food brings families together.

Do activities that involve the kids.

Keep it interesting.

Kids need to hear more fire and zeal.

7. Janet Beckwith:

Sharing is important for the youth.

It comes naturally to them.

8. Fr. Tony's Proposal:

* We will have a liaison for Youth Ministry at each site.

Caribou: Jessica & Andrew Ciszewski.

Limestone: Meagan Malena & Jocelyn Dillon

Presque Isle: Jonathan & Jessica Poisson

Fort Fairfield: Andrew & Beth Bellamy

Mars Hill: Betsy & Craig Allen

* There will be a separate person at St. Mary's, not Hillary.

* More young families need to be involved in ministry at Mass.

* One Sunday a month families should serve at all the Masses.

We will take this to the Pastoral Council by Sept. 2022 and it
will be in place by Oct. 2023.

* Don't tell them what to do, ask them what they want to do?

9. Confirmation & First Eucharist: Oct. 30, 2022 @ 1:00 PM. 16-17 Students.

Sat., Oct. 29 - Retreat and Rehearsal 9:00 AM at Holy Rosary.

Sun., Oct. 30 – Confirmation & First Eucharist with Bishop Deeley.

10. Faith Formation: Classes started Sept. 11, 2022

* There are currently 88 children and youth who should be attending Faith Formation classes and activities.

* We have contact information and are reaching out to all families.

* We are having monthly events and inviting all families to participate.

Sept. 18 – Corn Maze @ Goughan's Farm. (39 participants)

Oct. 7 – Feast of the Holy Rosary, Family Rosary procession with luminaries.

Oct. 23 - Pumpkins at McElwain's Farm.

11. Next Faith Formation Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2022 at 5:00 PM