

**SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL
PARISH GENERAL MEETING – March 10, 2017**

Opening Prayer and Welcome– Fr. Andrew. 12 people were present as well as Fr. Andrew and Fr. Swann.

1. PARISH STATISTICS - 2016

1055 registered families
45 Baptisms
19 First Holy Communions
26 Confirmations – 19 young people and 7 receptions into the faith
9 Marriages
21 Deaths

2. Planning Committee:

The Planning Committee had the privilege of supporting a few parish initiatives during the Year of Mercy in 2016.

The year started with the New Year's Eve fundraiser for our refugee family in the Church Hall of the Cathedral. There was much planning and organizing for this event and many attended to support this worthwhile fundraiser.

The committee organized a potluck dinner for Fr. Andrew at the beginning of March in the church hall and many parishioners attended and fun was had by all.

April was a busy month with Easter and decorating the Cathedral and a birthday celebration for Bishop David Monroe at St. Ann's Academy.

In May we celebrated the anniversary of the ordinations of the priests of our parish (Fr. Andrew, Fr. Swann and Fr. Clinton).

May and June was busy planning and organizing for the Mass for the Feast of Corpus Christi which was held in June at Riverside Park with a procession with the Blessed Sacrament through the streets of downtown Kamloops that made its way to the Cathedral.

In July we celebrated Fr. Clinton's birthday at the Cathedral and had many parishioners attend.

July and August were busy months with the ordination of Bishop Joseph and his first Mass at the Cathedral and although the planning committee was not organizing this, they were very involved in various duties of the ordination leading up to and on the day of the ordination. In addition, a parish picnic and BBQ was held at Prince Charles Park to meet our refugee family.

The Alpha program began on Thursdays in October with many planning committee members as team leaders and organizers.

Two Coffee Cat sessions were held one on Euthanasia and the other on Advent (October and November)

In November, a potluck dinner was held for the parishioners and homeless of our community and was followed by confessions and Mass for the closing of the Holy Door of the Cathedral.

3. Maintenance:

a. Maintenance Committee –

About a year ago a committee was formed to take care of maintenance and repairs to the church and rectory buildings and property. Service and maintenance to the HVAC system is contracted to IPH for church and Tri-Rom for the Rectory; no changes or actions are taken. By inspecting the property, a list showing the necessary repairs and requirements was made and what actions should be taken. The following actions were undertaken,

- i. The handrails in the stairwells to the balconies were replaced and brought up to code.
- ii. In front of the rectory the sidewalk, concrete curbs, paving stones landscape area are now completed.
- iii. In the backyard all wood stairs/deck needed replacing.
- iv. The basement wall showed signs of water damage (crumbling), the retaining concrete brick walls along the lane showed cracks and movement. A new concrete walkway and

stairs to keep water away from the basement is now in place. The basement wall and trim on the rectory has also been completed.

- v. After removing of all bricks it was necessary to stabilize the back lane wall and a new retaining wall and foundation placed. The wood fence was replaced with a new low maintenance metal gliding fence; the same gliding is used to cover the unfinished walls of the garage and also used to build a place for the garbage containers.
- vi. Wind was blowing through the back door to the rectory. The door and frame were replaced. New sprinkler heads installed and sod placed in the back yard.
- vii. The parking lot at the side of the rectory – broken paving was removed, new curbs placed, paving fixed and extended, parking lines were repainted. Before the winter some crack filling was done to prevent pot holes and breaking up of paving.
- viii. Smaller jobs taken care of include refastening the gutter and downspout, clean roof over front entrance and install downspout.
- ix. Hours have been spent removing paint from concrete stairs and railings outside of church. This job is not finished. We plan to remove all paint from stair railings, acid wash and repaint. There are many repairs to fix broken concrete and plaster on stairs and walls and repaint it. It is advised that the landings and stairs be coated with a layer of rubber to get rid of puddles and make it non-skid. This is expensive +/- \$15,000. Other places where there is loose plaster would also be repaired.
- x. Items to be looked at include the build up of ice at the east side walkway and by the east corner of the rectory. This must be corrected. Also, a canopy or roof over the back door steps and walkway behind the rectory, painting of trim on rectory, garage and post, fascia and soffits in need of repair and paint.
- xi. Inside church projects include construction of a crying room and enlarge the sacristy, installation of a coffee make and counter in the church hall.
- xii. Thanks to Pat Benson, always willing to help, and to Bill Majnik for supplying tools and scaffolding at no charge and for the supply of materials and workers at cost.

b. **Altar Linens** Gertrude Sherlock and Giselle Tremblay continue to look after the Altar Linens for the parish.

c. **Church Cleaning** Maria Galapon had been doing both the church and rectory. Late last year we recruited Jen Tweedie to assist with the cleaning of the church weekly. These are paid positions and cover approximately 20 hours per week total between them at this point in time. It was suggested at the meeting that the hall floors be washed more than once per week. It is a very busy place and the Hall is used daily by various groups and organizations. **It is absolutely essential that EVERYONE who uses the Hall cleans up when they are finished!!!** It is irresponsible to leave a mess and expect the next person to do it or to leave it solely up to the cleaners. They are not hired full time to clean up after parishioners.

d. **Yard Maintenance**

Gardens and lawns: Gardening was primarily done by a group of volunteers. Last summer Michael Mayhew was cutting the grass. Fr. Swann has been very active in keeping up the yard care and will be planting a garden again this year.

Snow removal, shovelling, sanding - We are now mostly using the tractor we co-own with the school to plough the lots, and sidewalks are hand shovelled with de-icer sprinkled.

e. **Website**

Ness Alfeche is the web master. We attempt to keep the website up to date with the inclusion of the bulletin, Fr. Andrew's homilies and upcoming events. The parish facebook page is also updated regularly. Fr. Andrew suggested a multimedia committee may be helpful.

4. Education and Evangelization

a. Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy has been encouraged by the Catholic Church since 1973. It is NOT to be confused with a classroom experience. It is not playschool, and not a time for teaching formal religion classes. The purpose of Liturgy of the Word with children is to give them an experience of liturgy: of coming together to listen to the Gospel of that Sunday, at their level of comprehension but always faithful to scripture. Then together they express their response in prayers, songs, gestures, and drawings. Its purpose is to prepare children for adult participation.

All parishioners enjoy and learn from the priest's or bishop's message as he sends the children forth. We have more children attending than we see at the front of the church—some hide shyly in the stairwell.

New ushers should be instructed to tell the leader when the homily is done. A few times we have been forgotten in the basement! Lennie in the church office kindly copies sheets appropriate to each Sunday, so leaders simply follow that format. The leader's sheet for each Sunday has discussion and questions about each Gospel, followed by the correct answers. Very simple and pleasant to follow! We have 11 leaders who lead Children's Liturgy at 8:30 and 11:30 Masses, including Shawn Chisholm our St. Ann's School principal. Extra coloring sheets and leaflets left at the church entrances are for people to take home, or for children attending 6 pm Mass as there is no Children's Liturgy.

Submitted by Linda Cameron
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b. Faith Formation for Children

Faith Formation for Children September 2015 – May 2016 on Thursday 6:30 – 7:30 PM at SAA

For the year 2015-2016, the SHC-FFC had a total of eight (8) committed volunteer catechists who taught from Grade 1 -7. The catechists always had regular meetings between 3 – 4 times a year with Father Andrew, to plan before the opening of the FFC class, in the middle of the year and to evaluate at the end of the year. As part of the spiritual growth of the catechists we had a Pre Advent day of reflection in 2015.

We had a total of 22 children registered last 2015-2016. The SHC-FFC have different activities to evangelize and catechise not only the children but also their family and the Intergenerational (children to old age). The following are the activities that we accomplished:

September – The Commissioning Sunday for Catechists and Catholic Teachers
- Meeting with the FFC parents

October – Enrollment Ceremony for Grade 2 (First Communicants)

November – Intergenerational All Saints Day Celebration wherein we presented the life of the Canadian Saints.

November – Pre-Advent day of Reflection for the Volunteer Catechists

December – Advent Activity with the FFC Family – where Father Andrew gave a short reflection about Advent and then afterwards they made their own advent wreath to bring home.

- Christmas Outreach at Ponderosa – the children together with their family and the volunteer catechists went to Ponderosa for an hour to entertain the seniors by sharing their time and talent in singing and in playing different musical instruments.

January – Enrollment Ceremony for Grade 7 (Confirmands), A Day of Reflection for the Grade 2 parents

February – First Reconciliation & Making Peace (Grade 2)

March – Lenten Intergenerational Dinner Event (stage play) where about 90 people attended to reflect The Seven Last Word of Jesus.

April – Share a Meal (Grade 2)

May – First Communion (Grade 2), Confirmation (Grade 7)

- FFC end of Year Family/Catechists BBQ

Once a month we are very fortunate to have the SAA High School student volunteers to help in teaching catechism.

We have a regular Mass with the FFC family every 3rd Thursday and we sponsor the 11:30 am Mass every 3rd Sunday of the month.

RE: Report on SHC-FFC Year 2016-2017 Date: March 10, 2017

We started the FFC by having the Prep Meeting with Fr. Andrew last August 2016. Last September, we are blessed to have the Commissioning Sunday during the celebration of the International Jubilee for the Catechists, followed by reflection and agape at the basement. The schedule of FFC this year was change to Sunday from 10:00 – 11:00 am instead of Thursday, thinking that we might have more registrations. We are still fortunate enough to have 14 registrations this year. We only have 4 children for the First Reconciliation and Communion and none for the Confirmation.

We are very privileged to have again the 8 volunteer Catechists, who are very zealous and committed in sharing their faith to the Faith Formation children.

The FFC started the first class in September 18, 2016 with the Opening Liturgy and the 1st Parent Meeting. Instead of the All Saints Day celebration, we decided for the first time to have the Intergenerational Living Rosary on the last Sunday of October at the SHC parish before the 11:30 am Mass with the participation from SAA, CWL, KofC and the other parishioners.

Together with the FFC family we had a program for Advent preparation and we did the Jesse Tree in the parish before the 11:30 am Mass. Before their Christmas Holiday, we visited Ponderosa Lodge for 1 and ½ hours to give joy to the seniors by singing Christmas carols, telling Christmas jokes and showing different talents.

For the Sacramental Preparations, earlier this year the grade 2's already had their Enrollment Ceremony, their 1st Reconciliation and Making Peace celebration. Their parents had the Reflection Day last Saturday with 2 sessions and Adoration. The Share A Meal will happen still in April, the First Holy Communion on May 7th, and the Confirmation is on May 13th.

The FFC kids in collaboration with SAA Mini Mary's Group started already two weeks ago practicing on the Easter Play to be shown on April 22nd at SAA Gym.

The FFC classes sponsor the 11:30 Mass on the second Sunday of the month.

Alpha is offered for the parents to view as the children are in class.

c. Vacation Bible School: Written Report from Sr. Analisa

The Vacation Bible Camp has been running already for five years with the blessings and support of Bishop Monroe, Father Andrew, Father Paul, the VBS Adult Team Volunteers and the family of the VBS participants. Each year the VBS has a different theme, virtues and saints of the day to help the children grow in their faith as a Catholic.

The VBS is designed as a 5 day program from Monday to Friday. Each day of the VBS includes: an Opening Assembly, going to the different 5 Stations (Faith, Snacks, Fun & Games, Music and Craft), a Closing Assembly and Mass.

VBS Goals:

1. To have a Catholic Summer program, teaching our Catholic faith to the children and the youth volunteers.
2. To be able to grow in the knowledge, love and service to God.
3. To create an environment of small Christian community through the family of the participants and the volunteers.
3. To help parents alleviate a little of their financial worries in putting their kids into Daycare center.

The VBS last year, in consultation with Fathers Andrew and Paul and the VBS Team decided to try to run the camp for two weeks. We had it from July 4-8 and July 11-15 at the Saint Ann's Academy: the Bible Camp from 8:00 – 12:30 PM and the Sports Camp from 1 – 5 PM.

WEEK 1 Theme: CATHLETICS

Sport: BASKETBALL c/o Mr. Gary Mayhew

WEEK 2 Theme: BIRTHDAY BLAST

Sport: SOCCER c/o Miss Katie Smiley

Total Adult Volunteers = 16

Total Teen/Youth Volunteers = 16

Total Registrations: Week 1 = 58 children ages 5 – 11, Week 2 = 68 children ages 5 – 11

Registration Cost: Morning Sessions: \$40/week, Afternoon Sessions: 75/week, Whole day Session: \$100/week

The plan for the VBS/Sports Camp 2017 this year is to have two weeks again on the 2nd and 3rd week of July but it has not been finalized yet. We are still looking for more adult volunteers to run the 2nd week.

d. RCIA

A group of parishioners along with Fr. Andrew meet weekly beginning in September to explore and discuss our Faith. We currently use “On the Journey Series for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults” program edited by Barbara Morgan and William Keimig and published by the Association for Catechumenal Ministry (ACM) Clinton, Maryland. The program covers many topics and includes numerous handouts, which explain and teach what our Roman Catholic Faith is all about in an informative, enjoyable, approach to adult religious education and preparation for reception into the Church. We have an active group meeting again this year.

e. Alpha

Alpha is a tool for evangelization that is being used by thousands of Catholic parishes in over 70 countries around the world. Alpha is also run by churches of many other denominations to introduce people to the life-changing message of Jesus Christ. This has led to more than 27 million people around the world experiencing Alpha. In particular, it is attracting many young people who are asking the question, ‘Is there more to life than this?’ We are running this program on Thursday evenings and it is well attended. There has been a consistent group of 40 people attending the ALPHA nights. The majority are Catholics. There are a few who are returning Catholics and a couple are non-Catholic.

The meals have been cooked by various volunteers.

f. Coffee Cat

We held two “Coffee House” evenings at which a specific topic was discussed. The topics covered were Euthanasia and Advent, and questions were encouraged during these informal events. We plan to hold more of these coffee houses in the future.

g. Lent and Advent reflections, devotions, Last year during Lent Fr. Clinton did a few talks on Laudato Si. We had Ken Yashinski give us a Mission, as well as retreat teams that came to St. Ann’s Academy and also offered opportunities in the parish.

h. Guest speakers etc coming: We were happy to have Fr. Larre give us a Mission last week as we began our Lenten journey. Fr. Paul has been doing a series of talks on prayer during Lent. Joe Zambone will be coming May 18th

5. Liturgy Volunteers needed in all ministries except for the 11:30 Mass

- a. **Altar Servers** – Fr. Andrew has trained more Altar Servers and has more parent help organizing them.
- b. **Readers** – severely short of readers at all Masses except 11:30 – evening Masses in particular. Fr. Swann is planning to put on a workshop for readers and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion in the near future.
- c. **Ushers** – Evening Masses and special liturgy such as Holy Week and Christmas can be very difficult to fill. More volunteers needed badly.

d. **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** – not used at evening masses. However, more ministers at the morning Masses would relieve the regulars from serving every week.

e.

6. PASTORAL OUTREACH

a. Hospital/ Home Visiting

Fr. Swann goes to the hospital every day at least once to give Holy Communion to the patients and he attempts to keep in touch with the patients when they are able to return home from the hospital. However, in order to do more home visits and more follow-up from hospital patients it is important to have many more volunteers. The Sisters and a few parishioners do as much as they can but in order to sit and “listen” to the lonely it is a large time commitment and requires volunteers willing to put in that time.

b. **Refugee family** – The Syrian refugee family of 5, Ali Omar and Delal Abdi with their children, Danya , Dijvar, and Hicrin arrived in February 2016. Anita Sehn headed up the committee to arrange the sponsorship of this family. Several volunteers have been extremely active and supportive of this family. There were health issues of which we were unaware until after the arrival of the family, which has been an added challenge. A few people have been diligent in helping them to learn to speak and understand the English language, to take them to various appointments in Kamloops and in Vancouver, supplying household items, accommodations etc. Helen Newmarch offers the following report

Although our commitment to a one year sponsorship is now passed the only thing that changes is that we are no longer required to send monthly financial support. We are in the process of registering them for Social Assistance (welfare) that will from here on and until they find gainful employment provide a monthly income. I’m not sure what the package will look like but they will be living on very little I’m sure. I don’t know if this may mean we may have to continue to fill in gaps especially where their medical and dental needs are concerned. Danyar has continued appointments at BC Children’s Hospital and Sunnyhill for Neurology, Orthopaedic Physical Medicine Specialists and Dental Surgery. They are no way able to make these trips on their own - navigating the health care system not to mention the streets of Vancouver is daunting even for me! We are in the process of applying for a premium assistance MSP for the family so that the children will have access to some funding through what is called the Healthy Kids Program. This can only be applied for once their income tax is completed which Anita will submit when she comes home from holiday. St Vincent de Paul have generously donated \$2,000.00 to help cover Danyars dental surgery bill which is estimated at just over \$2300.00. They have submitted the down payment (half of the estimate) to BCCH and I will have to pay for the remainder the day of the surgery which is booked for March 27th. Dijvar also has dental appointments in Abbotsford - he has been referred to a children’s clinic by Dr Cabael - and those costs are not known at this point. So, there is continued need for financial support to insure that their health and dental needs are being met. Dr Cabael has generously taken on the family in her dental clinic - Ali is waiting for his jaw to strengthen before they proceed with more crowns or fillings and then dentures.

They have moved to a new residence on Sydney Ave on the north Shore thanks to Felisha purchasing a home and renovating it to make it comfortable for the family upstairs. Felisha and her husband will eventually have the basement finished for them to move into.

The boys are doing well at school - they are picked up by the special school bus every day and delivered home. They are adjusting very well - making friends and learning at a terrific rate. Their progress is greatly assisted by the continued interactions with the students from St Ann’s and to the teachers that continue to work extra with them - Kathy, Felisha.

Ali is working part time with Sam when he has work for him to do - inconsistent lately unfortunately. A major goal is to now help Ali find more permanent work. He has his learners driving license and will take another road test and hopefully pass soon. So, our work continues helping them to adjust and become successful new Canadians

7. Budget for 2017

The finance committee along with Fr. Andrew and Lennie Heslop have approved the budget for 2017 with an operating Net income of \$1012.00

The Income we have estimated from the trends and indications from the last few years to be \$362,700.00.

Our operating expenses are estimated to be \$361,688.00 with 50% of the expense in salaries and benefits, 10.5% in school tuition assistance and subsidies, 11% in Diocesan Tax with 28.5% of the expenses going to church programs, utilities, taxes, etc.

Last year we made several improvements to the grounds, stairs, repairs within the church, etc., that were paid out of funds in our existing account but which were not in the budget for 2016. However, maintenance and upkeep are essential and there are other items we plan to address this year. Therefore, the non-operating expenses we project to be possibly in the area of \$53,000, Evangelization being one of the non-operating expenses, costs for which can be hard to predict. Bringing in retreat leaders or teams can be very expensive.

As of December 31st 2016 we had \$450,048.25 in the Diocesan Consolidated Banking account and \$50372.08 in the CIBC chequing account.

Today we have the same amount, \$450,048.25 in the DCB account and we have \$63,575.09 in the CIBC account.

BUDGET FOR 2017	
SACRED HEART	CATHEDRAL
255 NICOLA STREET	
KAMLOOPS	V2C 2P3

<u>RECEIPTS:</u>		<u>OPERATING EXPENSES:</u>	
COLLECTION - RECEIPTABLE	\$ 266,000.00	CHURCH SUPPLIES	\$ 15,000.00
LOOSE COLLECTIONS	\$ 39,200.00	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 2,000.00
SPECIAL DONATIONS	\$ 13,000.00	ORDINARY REPAIRS	\$ 14,000.00
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	\$ 7,000.00	UTILITIES	\$ 20,000.00
STOLE FEES	\$ 5,000.00	CIVIC TAXES	\$ 2,500.00
CANDLES	\$ 7,000.00	SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$ 182,488.00
INTEREST ON DCB	\$ 4,000.00	FOOD & HOUSE SUPPLIES	\$ 13,000.00
FAITH IN ACTION	\$ 7,000.00	DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT	\$ 40,000.00
MISSION SUPPORT	\$ 14,000.00	HOSPITALITY	\$ 1,500.00
MISSALS, ADVENT & LENT BOOKS	\$ 500.00	REL BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS	\$ 4,000.00
		INSURANCE	\$ 10,000.00
		RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	\$ 5,500.00
		RETREATS (PRIESTS)	\$ 1,200.00
		VOTIVE CANDLES	\$ 4,300.00
		PUBLICATIONS	\$ 1,600.00
		YOUTH MINISTRY	\$ 2,000.00
		ADVERTISING	\$ 2,000.00
		WEBSITE	\$ 500.00
		OFFERING ENV	\$ 1,350.00
		BANK FEES	\$ 250.00
		MISC	\$ 500.00
		SCHOOL SUBSIDIES/TUITION ASSISTANCE	\$ 38,000.00
		TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 361,688.00
		NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ 1,012.00
		NON-OPERATING EXPENSES	
		BUILDING UPGRADES	\$ 5,000.00
		EVANGELIZATION	\$ 11,000.00
		EXTRAORDINARY REPAIRS	\$ 37,000.00
		TOTAL NON-OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 53,000.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 362,700.00	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 414,688.00
		PROJECTED TOTAL NET LOSS OF	\$51,988.00

