

St Joseph's Parish
Kentville
March 21, 2018

Communications

Communicate new changes to Parish better.
Up-to-date communications - website, phone, bulletin. (x2)
Phones & email messages working well.
One Call Now really working well.
One Call Now can be expanded to larger groups, sent to all.
Overhead projector.
Hospitality.
Using technology to bring awareness to what is happening.
Could use Skype, Facetime, Zoom for group meetings.
Video education for young children (5-12) for foundations.
Single communication to all parishioners.
Use live streaming.
Pre-Mass slide show.

Faith Formation

Evangelization
Praise & Worship
Inclusive Youth Group
1st Communion, Confirmation in one spot.
RCIA in one spot.
At all 3 Churches, ideally some in common.
Deacons & lay people run more classes.
Need for all ages, especially adult education.
Small faith-sharing & prayer groups, ALPHA, Bible Study, Cursillo, Study of CCC
Vatican II, Retreat weekends on various faith subjects. (x3)
What can St. Joe's do to encourage young adults to attend.
What can we do to make St. Joe's more welcoming.
Focus on the youth.
Social activities (community building).
Live streaming of speakers, theologians (Cardinals, Bishops across Canada).
More books available - Bookstore
Different levels of study- those starting their search (ALPHA) and those farther along in their journey.

Finances

Regional Finance Committee & Fund for parish-wide priorities.
Inform parishioners of our financial structure, how much comes in, what it is spent on, how much invested. Let us
Pool money into one.
Sell some buildings.
Ensure contributions stay with Church.
Planned giving.
Pro-Rata on Church revenues.
Principle of Tithing.
Principle of Sowing & Reaping.
Endowment Funds.
Make sure the Hub Parish serves the little communities.
Financially responsible - many small churches cost more money.
Centralize finances.
Educate parishioners to use PAR.
Information-sharing is how to do it. = more money.
Put out semi-annual general financial stmt, revenue & expense.

Graffiti Wall

When will the Pastoral Plan be available to the parishioners?

Masses

Mass schedule in Kentville seems OK.
Need 2 Masses in Kentville.
Valley region 5-2 (sic) on Sat., 3 on Sun.
Have to be flexible about times.
30 minute travel. (x4)
Reasonable travel time 20 min. pt. to pt.
Masses, Liturgy of Word working well.
Staff (sharing costs).
Masses working well for parishioners, not so well for clergy.
Not a Mass every week.
Presently 2 Masses at St. Joe's, + 10 others on Sat/Sun.
Already flexible on times.
Priest stays put.
Current Masses are adequate for St. Joe's (11AM & 5PM).
Multiple Masses at fewer churches.
Need Saturday & Sunday Masses.
3 churches be created to keep travel time to 30 mins.

Priest travel not more than 30-45 minutes btw churches.
One Mass (sic), times can be changed, 15-20 min (sic)
Current number of Masses not adequate.
Deacon-led services well accepted, include special services.
Winter weather may change travel opportunities.
Too much for clergy now (x2) 30-40 mins max.
4 Masses, 4PM Sat; 9AM, 11AM, 5PM Sun.
Congregation exchanges in prep. or advance of joining of Masses and Churches.
Daily Mass - live stream. (x2)
No Sunday School means fewer families stay for Mass.
More Praise & Worship.
Easier for parishioners to come to a central local than Priests.
Include Acadia in Mass planning.
Masses -- 1 weekend Mass, 1 weekday Mass.
Priests under too much stress already, no need to add more.
Cursillo - St. Joe's used as Facility.
Each week have a group of 20 or so people attend Mass in a different church to get to better know our fellow Catholics in other churches.
For Heart & Soul, meet in New Minas or the (sic) Kentville...(and) add walk to Mass as group on nice Sundays . Perhaps say the Rosary along the way.

Physical Structures

Old Wandlyn Inn

1 in Central Kings, 1 in Windsor, One in Annapolis Co. (x2)

Priests Residence, Food Bank

Maintain Acadia Chapel.

50 kms is reasonable distance to travel.

Opportunity to build centralized church.

Regional Retreat House big enough for all communities.

Hard to read what physical structure must be closed down.

Move to house gatherings or rentals.

Make more energy efficient, use heat pumps, green technology, steel vanes (sic)

De-heritage buildings. (sic)

Amalgamate smaller to make 1 large church, 3 Parishes equal distance apart.

Multipurpose room be equipped with round tables.

Remodel MP room in Kentville.

Fully equip kitchen.

Manning Chapel is available at no cost & should be used.

Adoration Chapel, appropriate space for handicapped.

Heated toilet seats in the Ladies washroom.

Reduction needed.

1 Big Family such as St. Joseph's.

3 Centres, 3 Admin teams, 1 priest per centre, sacramental prep. by lay persons

Sacraments

Formation of Sunday School.

Sacramental prep--as a special trip most will abide 30-45 min.

Half hour, should be co-ordinated with Masses & other events.

30 minute travel time.

50 minute travel time.

Sacraments prep--potluck, baby sitting, family fun available.

Use the central churches we already have.

Maybe pay someone to do the central things, e.g. 1st communion.

The children are losing out on Sunday School Program.

Not many attending Jennifer's sessions.

Many marry "outside the Church". Result is blended family, children don't go to church, don't know anything about Faith.

Sacramental prep can be done in peoples' homes.

Sacramental prep can be done locally.

Staffing and Volunteers

More staff needed.

More staff for Family Life and Youth.

Sharing bulletin/staff.

More accepting of Liturgy of Word with communion.

Increasing acceptance of need for change.

Much enlarged Ministry Team with divergent but coherent focus to meet communities' needs.

Organized volunteers for community events.

Risk of jobs becoming too big.

1 clergy support (Cyndi), 1 secretary (admin).

Pooling resources, ministries.

1 communications person for parish.

1 volunteer co-ordinator to many ministries.

Develop teams of trained volunteers to run programs.

Need volunteers & programs organized.

More inclusive idea of our area.

Right now we are duplicating.

Thank volunteers - Recognition of Service.

Respectfully request that we hire more staff.

What's Working Well

Bulletin

Co-operation/Rotation of Deacons & Priests.

Music, is the best, need to invest in, support & grow.

Praise & Worship

Stage Prophets

Visitation of the sick

World Day of Prayer, Prayer Men's Group, Youth Summit, Steubenville.

Welcoming of Greeters is a good thing, as is the coffee time.(x2)

Deacon-led services as alternative to Mass with Priests.

ALPHA

Pooling/sharing resources, parish mission, retreats, hospice, palliative care

Communication system working well.

Technology important part, keeping people engaged & included.