
Saint Agnes Catholic Church

75 Bluevale St. N, Waterloo, ON

Parish Pastoral Council

Annual General Meeting Report

18th June 2020

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About Parish Council

The Parish Pastoral Council, in accordance with the teachings of the Church, is a consultative body. It collaborates with the Pastor, who is entrusted by the Bishop with the care of the parish. While the Pastor has the primary canonical and legal responsibility for both the spiritual and material care of the parish and its members, the Parish Pastoral Council is called and established to collaborate with the Pastor in carrying out the mission of the Church.

“The laity has an active part to play in the life and activity of the Church. Their activity is so necessary within the Church communities that without it the apostolate of the pastors is generally unable to achieve its full effectiveness.”

[Reference text is “The Parish Pastoral Council: Guidelines for the Development of Constitutions”, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops.]

Parish Pastoral Council Members

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Pastor | Fr. Aleks Mazur, SAC |
| Deacon | Rev. Mr. Ed MacIntosh |
| Administrative Assistant | Mrs. Judy Kerr |
| Chairperson | Teresa Milton |
| Communications | Elizabeth Ingle |
| CWL | Tammy Middleton |
| St. Vincent de Paul | Anne McKellar |
| Sacramental Prep | Michelle Schill |
| CWL | Tammy Middleton |
| Finance | Tony Maruna |
| Member-At-Large | Ronnie Mendonsa |
| Member-At-Large | Helen Cipriano |
| Member-At-Large | Jamie Jewer |
| Member-At-Large | Aaron Stemmler |
| Youth Member | Theophile Ossinga |
| St. Agnes School Rep | Leslie Shaw |
| St. Matthew School Rep | Andreas Richter |
| St. Luke School Rep | Violet Kuzio |

Chair Report

Teresa Milton

First, let me say that serving St. Agnes Parish, under Fr. Aleks' leadership and with a dynamic council has been a pleasure. My second year on Council has been exciting and very busy, mostly with big events – the 50th Anniversary of the Blessing and Dedication of St. Agnes Church, Fr. Aleks' 50th birthday and Fr. Aleks' 25th Anniversary of Ordination. Thank you to everyone who helped make these events memorable and special!

Our council met five times and covered an array of topics. These included Special Event Planning, ongoing maintenance of the church/rectory/property i.e., the completion of the Family Room, repairing the church bells and perimeter parking lot issues. We also had discussions about the One Heart One Soul Fundraising Campaign through the Diocese of Hamilton and prospective future projects including the overhaul of our Parish Centre Kitchen. As you know, the Campaign launch had to be postponed due to the Pandemic.

Please read and enjoy the reports below from the various groups and ministries within our Parish. You will find it interesting to learn how we continue to perform despite COVID-19. Please find it in your hearts and within your talents to reach out to a group that appeals to you. We are continually looking for help to promote a fresh, vibrant Parish Community.

God Bless you all.

Parish Council Changes for 2020-2021

The two Member-At-Large positions that finished their 2-year term have chosen to renew their terms, thank you Ronnie Mendonsa and Helen Cipriano. And a HUGE thanks to Elizabeth Ingle for her many years of service on Council. Her commitment to the offices of Recording Secretary, Chairperson, Mission Possible, Communications and helping to report on Finance have been most appreciated. She will continue to be involved in the life of our Parish through various committees and the St. Agnes Education Café.

From Your Pastor

Fr. Aleks Mazur

What extraordinary times! Our Parish is about to reopen the church for celebrations after 3 months of lockdown. This transition is certainly a very exciting and dynamic period. I can't wait until Tuesday, June 16, to be able to say Holy Mass in the presence of my parishioners.

In considering a review of another pastoral year ending, in such extraordinary circumstances, my first thought goes to these last 3 months. It is certainly a difficult and stressful time for many. Our church has been closed through some of the most significant celebrations: the second half of Lent with Palm Sunday; Holy Triduum and Easter; Divine Mercy Sunday; Ascension and Pentecost; Holy Trinity; and Corpus Christi solemnity. During this time, I celebrated the 25th Anniversary of my Ordination. Through the effort of our talented Parishioners we were able to

stream Holy Mass via the Zoom platform every day. This program, created for video and audio conferences, allowed us to be active participants of all liturgies and meetings streamed online. In this way we had the opportunity to be together as a Parish community amidst lockdown and isolation. I am grateful to God and the Blessed Mother for this experience.

I think that even the difficulties that have challenged our faith, especially being unable to receive Holy Communion and other Sacraments, may help us to grow in a genuine longing for the Living God and greater appreciation of His gifts. I earnestly hope that the faith of individuals and of the Parish community will be stronger in the post Covid-19 era.

Preparing for the General Annual Parish Council Meeting we need to look at the entire pastoral year. I still remember the 50th Anniversary of St. Agnes Church celebrated in November 2019. We were honoured by the presence of Bishop Crosby, our guest priests Fr. Piotr Machnacki, Fr. Irek Koziak and Fr. David Reitzel, as well as many current and past Parishioners. It was a beautiful Anniversary. Among many acknowledgments and presentations, we enjoyed having Judy Kerr be awarded by the Bishop with a special medal for her outstanding ministry in the Parish office. That celebration showed once again the trademark of St. Agnes, which is of many talented and dedicated people generously volunteering in all kinds of Parish programs and activities.

I would like to mention a new formation program “St. Agnes Education Cafe” which was successfully started this year. There were also our usual programs providing spiritual, educational, sacramental and social formation, and run by the leaders of our Parish. Depending on the pandemic situation we may offer VBS this year for our children, as we have a new team ready to offer this program.

The essential part of any Parish is the one that is difficult to measure or to describe. I am speaking about all those experiences of spiritual growth, of reconciliation with God and one another, of fruits of the Holy Spirit growing in us, of accepting our daily crosses with joy, of welcoming new brothers and sisters to St. Agnes. There is no doubt we have been blessed with all these experiences this ending pastoral year.

My prayer is that we continue to give witness as faithful followers of Jesus Christ, having a shining example in St. Agnes and St. Vincent Pallotti.

Fr. Aleks

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Anne McKellar, Chairperson

Our St. Agnes Society of Saint Vincent de Paul conference has been on hold during this Covid-19 pandemic. The food bank made the decision that only two agencies in the K-W area should remain open, the House of Friendship and the Salvation Army. This was so that they can better manage the food supplies and to limit the spread of the virus. We have been donating food from our pantry that was close to its expiry date.

Since our families will have used up their allotted visits to those agencies once we are able to help again, we expect to be extremely busy. We expect this re-opening to happen near the end

of June. Up until we stopped our deliveries on March 23rd, the number of families that we helped monthly had been rising. We were helping an average of 28 families each month compared to 25 last year.

Thank you to our parishioners for their generous support of our monthly collections and the food placed in our box in the vestibule. St. Matthew, St. David and St. Agnes schools have held food drives for us. In January, St. Agnes school also donated a large number of hats, mittens/gloves and socks for the families that we help.

We were truly thankful for your amazing generosity at Christmas time. St. Agnes is a very giving community! The North of 60 project for all conferences in Kitchener-Waterloo was to help the community of Baker Lake, Nunavut. Our conference had started to collect peanut butter and Lipton chicken noodle soup before the church was closed. We have given all of that plus donations made to our conference for this purpose to the organizing committee. They are also using the donations made on Canada Helps to purchase the rest in bulk. If you would still like to make a donation, you can visit the campaign page by clicking [here](#).

We currently have 26 members. Only 21 of these do deliveries and the rest help with sorting food, etc. We could always use more help from those wishing to serve Christ by helping the less fortunate. We have been praying for vocations to the Vincentian family at our meetings! If you would like more info, please let me know.

Catholic Women's League

Tammy Middleton (Past President)

“Growing in faith, and witnessing the love of God through ministry and service”

The St. Agnes CWL currently has 155 members and is one of the largest CWL councils in the diocese. In the past year our Executive Members have been: Julie Nafziger- President, Sharon Healey-Treasurer, Lisa Jewer-Education, Cathy Seitz-Corresponding Secretary, Barb Kleisath-Organization, Tammy Middleton-Recording Secretary and Past President.

The year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the CWL as a Canadian National organization. Obviously the “in person” celebrations have been postponed. We encourage you (members and non-members) to stay informed on a number of interesting Hamilton Diocese CWL initiatives by visiting <https://cwlhamilton.ca>

The St. Agnes council had a very busy fall and spring. Activities included: our 4th annual March fund-raising book sale; several Sunday luncheon meetings in the Parish Hall; our annual CWL brunch in November, visits and Christmas flowers to our homebound members; helping with the parish Carol Sing and potluck and the parish Chili cookoff celebration, and hosting a Stations of the Cross celebration. Our great thanks to all members and parishioners that helped and participated in these events. Since mid-March, like everyone else, we have been staying at home and we greatly miss in-person socializing and service. Many blessings to our president Julie Nafziger who made it a personal mission to contact all CWL members through email, phone calls, and mail. I know this was appreciated by many.

Over the past year our CWL helped to support a number of causes with donations, including the parish kitchen, Catholic Missions in Canada, Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region, and the Hamilton Diocese 100th Anniversary celebration. We also will continue to support our parish students undertaking the sacraments, when these celebrations are rescheduled.

Currently the St. Agnes CWL is planning for the fall and calling for volunteers with the Executive -please pray for us and consider how you can help your local CWL council.

Communications

Elizabeth Ingle: elizabethingle7@gmail.com

The Communications role on our St. Agnes Parish Council involves activity in a number of areas of our parish community. The following are just some of those areas in which contribution was made to communicate the news, updates and various happenings in our bustling parish life:

- Bulletin announcements: informing the community about upcoming events
- Internal event promotion: commentator announcements, bulletin news items, poster design and production
- External promotion: communication with other parishes about select events and related updates
- Social media: some (but limited) use of social media for event promotion, and sharing/promoting relevant news to our community.
- Website: periodic contribution of content to assist the website lead
- 50th Anniversary Celebration: emcee responsibility for our parish Anniversary event
- Marketing: overseeing design, development & installation of the interior and exterior banners at our parish, to promote our 50th Anniversary to our community & visitors
- Finance Committee: contributing to the communication needs of the committee to distribute messaging through our various parish channels

Looking Ahead

Many opportunities exist to enhance and expand this role on our Council. Ideas include:

- Expanding the committee to share the role, allowing for new initiatives to be explored
- Website: working more closely with the website lead to assist with content development
- Social media: opportunity exists to better utilize social media for growing our community

Office Administration

Judy Kerr

Our St. Agnes Parish Office is usually bustling with activity. COVID-19 has changed things drastically. Our office is closed until further notice from the Bishop's Office and working from home is very difficult. Thank you, Fr. Aleks, for being here for all of us, helping us navigate these difficult and trying times and celebrating Mass on Zoom. Participating in this way is so comforting for all of us.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION COVERS MANY AREAS.

As secretary/office administrator I do my best to co-ordinate / liaison with Parish Council and other parish groups in whatever way possible.

To date (2020), through the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome:

Mackenzie, Rhys and Sebastian Moser; Jude, Arya, Wyatt and Finn Polinsky; Linden & Oaklin Weston, Grace Quigley and Jace Correa.

Since January 2020 we have had six funerals and mourn the loss of:

Donald Soehner, Rita Bergman, Clelia Dalla Nora, Helen Lehman, Robert Montag and Lucy Monaco.

We pay the bills, keep the books, make out the financial and spiritual reports for the Diocese and maintain individual records of Sunday Offering envelopes and Pre-Authorized Offerings so we can send out your yearly tax receipts. Presently there are 42 parishioners taking advantage of this method of giving – totaling \$3,800 a month.

We make certain our sacramental wines, altar breads, candles, Offering Envelopes etc., are well stocked and send in regular orders for 'Word Among Us' and 'Living with Christ missalettes'.

Presently these monthly missalettes are available for pick-up by our parishioners in a box outside the Rectory Office door.

Prior to the outbreak of COVID-19, here in the office we met many wonderful people on a daily basis. Often, the parish office was the first-place people stopped by or called when they found themselves in challenging situations whether spiritually or in dealing with difficulties in their every-day lives.

We co-ordinated community outreach for pastoral care such as visits, Holy Communion and Anointing of the sick, elderly, shut-ins or those in the hospital.

We shared in the joy of meeting with couples who were planning to celebrate their weddings; worked through the worries and concerns of individuals in need of obtaining a Declaration of Nullity and consoled the families who lost a loved one and assisted them with making funeral arrangements and planning funeral liturgies.

We assisted young parents with registering their child for Baptism. We talked with them, answered their questions, obtained all the necessary family/child information and assigned a date for their participation in a Baptism Preparation program and presentation at a Sunday Mass.

'Thank You' to members of our St. Agnes Baptism Preparation Team. Families preparing for the Sacrament are very grateful for the opportunity of taking part in this informative and well-presented program.

Unfortunately, we were not able to celebrate First Communion and Confirmation with our three schools this spring. These celebrations will have to be postponed until next year.

Preparing a Sunday Bulletin was also an important part of our weekly duties. Hopefully we can commence once again in September. During the summer months Mass Intentions and important information will be posted on the parish web-site.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THIS PAST YEAR WAS THE CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLESSING AND DEDICATION OF OUR ST. AGNES PARISH ON NOVEMBER 2ND.

Our principal celebrant and homilist for Holy Mass was Most Rev. Douglas Crosby and concelebrants were Fr. Aleks Mazur, Fr. Piotr Machnacki, Fr. Irek Koziak, Fr. David Reitzel and Deacon Ed MacIntosh.

We followed with a Reception in the Parish Hall. It was a wonderful time for all who attended. All enjoyed looking at the special photo displays that had been put together and listening to the stories told by some of our founding members. I was also very honored to receive the special award from the Diocese for my years of service here at St. Agnes.

Our newly repaired bells were rung for the first time. After not hearing bells for so long the sound of them ringing awakened our faith and love of God and added to the wonderful celebration.

THIS PAST YEAR the Family Room was renovated and updated. New carpet was installed, it was freshly painted, and two very comfortable chairs added. It is now bright, cheery, wonderfully comfortable and greatly appreciated by our families.

The Rectory had a number of much needed repairs and improvements. The carpeting on the stairway from the main floor to the lower level was replaced and the railing painted. The back door by the garage was replaced and the area was painted.

Three church doors and the main office door were varnished. The beams and porch ceiling of the main office entrance were painted.

A number of areas near the back of the parking lot had new asphalt put down. Hugh McMahon re-painted the handicapped lines on five parking spots.

Thank you to Teresa & Bruce Milton and Hugh McMahon for clearing the heavy weeds that came up through the pavement in the parking lot.

Our yearly City of Waterloo Back flow Inspection on valves, sprinkler irrigation and the boiler room were also completed. All industrial, commercial, and institutional buildings are inspected to ensure Waterloo's drinking water is protected from external contamination.

We are currently planning on installing roof access ladders with a safety cage. These ladders would make it much easier and safer to access the roof in order to check for damage and even to make any necessary repairs.

Throughout the year we count on the time and talent of some great people to help keep our parish and office running smoothly and efficiently. From Office Helpers, Council Members, Sacramental Preparation Team, Funeral / Kitchen Team, Musicians, Church Decorators, Gardeners, Cleaning & Maintenance Crew, Money Counters, Altar Servers, Lectors, Commentators, Sunday School Teachers and Helpers and Event Organizers. To all of you a most sincere 'Thank You'. We couldn't do it without you. God Bless all of you!

Sunday School Program

Joanne Thorpe

The Sunday school program at St. Agnes Parish has been around in many different forms for more than 40 years. Under the guidance of Father Joseph Dephoff, I began creating a program for young children that would help support their faith journey.

The program that operates today took many years to develop into what I hope is a viable and helpful addition to our community's support and education for young children in our parish. In order to support our children's choir and children's celebrations, I scheduled the program for Sundays when the children's choir was not singing.

Today, unfortunately, we no longer have a regular children's choir but for the sake of continuity, I kept our Sunday school program on every alternate Sunday. I also wanted to give the children more time to celebrate together and still be able to work on activities that help reinforce the message of the day so I moved the start time to 8:50am. We don't always get everyone arriving on time, but I live in hope.

The program is uniquely ours. I use resources and ideas from many different faith-based sources. This is not a packaged program supplied by an outside publisher but rather one designed to meet the needs of our community.

Over the years, I have had many helpers who have used their experience with Sunday school to give them community service hours or help them discern if they are interested in teaching young children and some of them helped out just because they wanted to.

My current assistant is Daniel Moniz. I also am blessed to have several parents who help out, especially when we have lots of children. When we are not isolated by a pandemic, we have anywhere from 8 to 18 children taking part in the program.

In April, Father asked me to provide some kind of connection or special outreach to the children that could be shared on Zoom so at 9:50am, I go on Zoom and talk to the children the way I

would if we were downstairs together. With the help of Mark Wardell, activity pages are posted each week on the parish website for families to download and work on together. I will continue to do this until the end of June.

I hope we are back together in the church by September at which time, I will either continue with a bi-weekly program or move to a weekly program. I don't know if anyone is listening. I don't know if families appreciate or care about a Sunday school program but for now, I will keep doing it until someone tells me to stop.

Sanctuary Choir

Debbie MacIntosh

The Sanctuary Choir meets in the main church on Monday evenings from 6:30pm – 7:30pm for practice. Habitually, this choir sings at the 11am Holy Mass on Sunday mornings. Over the past few years, this has been a very small group. This year, we were fortunate to add 8 new members. While this necessitated the purchase of some additional copies of music, it was certainly worth it! Having said that, this choir is always looking for new members to welcome.

We eagerly await the publication of the latest edition of the Catholic Book of Worship, and recognize that we may be able to play a part in any fundraising efforts which might be necessitated by such an investment.

Like all ministries, the choir has missed singing at Holy Mass for some of the highest feasts in the church year, including Holy Week and Easter, due to Covid-19. We look forward to returning, even with the uncertainty as to what that will look like.

St. Agnes Folk Choir

Mike Van Dam - *Folk Choir Director*

The St. Agnes Folk Choir has been a part of St. Agnes Parish for 30 years. I have been the Choir Director for the past 18 years. We have been Leaders of Song for Sunday Mass, Weddings, Funerals, First Communions, Confirmations, and many different celebrations throughout the years. We have always had a strong base of participants that give their time freely and willingly to support our parish with music and song. The Sunday 9:00am Mass is where we have participated for many years and the congregation sings strongly with us. We very much enjoy being a part of the Sunday Celebrations and being a part of a vibrant Catholic Community. It is wonderful to come to Mass on Sunday and say hello to dozens of friends weekly, spending time with them after Mass and getting to know more and more of our fellow parishioners. In large part this is due to the leadership of our church, Father Aleks. He has always supported us and when he greets us early on Sunday morning, there is usually some sort of light-hearted interaction that starts the day off perfectly.

Due to the pandemic we have been unable to practice and sing together at church and are looking forward to once again being able to lead the community when the opportunity arises. We understand that could be a while still, so we still have time to get our guitar fingers and vocal

cords into shape. We expect all members of our choir to return, of which at full capacity is around 20.

We hope that all members of our Parish will return to Mass when possible so we can celebrate together again and share God's love to all we meet.

Social Justice Committee of St Agnes Parish

Summary of activities for the Social Justice Committee of St Agnes Parish

- Completed fund raising activities for the Pura Vida Foundation at the beginning of 2019. Raised approximate funds of \$10,000 for this foundation.
- Started a new project, Swan River Missions, at the beginning of 2019. Swan River Missions is one of the many missions that the Catholic mission oversees.

Background on the Mission and the connection to St Agnes

- The Pallottines came to Swan River in 1952.
- The committee had started to undertake fundraising initiatives for the Swan River Mission, with Mass collections, table display and Mas presentations.
- To date, just over \$4600 has been raised.
- The committee was planning another fundraising drive for 2020, but have put these efforts on hold due to the Pandemic. These efforts will be restarted once it is prudent to do so.
- As well, The St Agnes Prayer Shawl group had donated beautiful shawls to the Mission, which were well received by the Parish community.
- The Parishes of Swan River continue to be challenged, even before the Pandemic, of deteriorating infrastructure, and need much help in getting these buildings and such to acceptable standards.

The Padre Pio Prayer Group in KW

Ewelina Mazan

When Padre Pio was alive, the Prayer Groups started, as a way for people to come together and ask Jesus to help them in the many afflictions that they were facing. It was a way for people to come together and also pray for one another - building a community with the armour of Christ.

Jesus said, "Where two or more are gathered in my Name, there I am" and based on this Padre Pio encouraged people of faith to come together in prayer - that is how the groups started and slowly spread across the world.

Padre Pio was one of the greatest Saints of all time; he was declared a Saint by St. John Paul on June 16th, 2002.

There are saints who have been known for healing; there are saints who could "read" souls; there are saints who were known for levitation; there were saints who bore the stigmata, or were

seen in apparition, or who had the “odor of sanctity.” There are saints who could understand languages they didn't know. But Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, had ALL these charismas, and more. In fact, not since St. Francis of Assisi has there been such a miracle-worker.

At Padre Pio's invitation, Prayer Groups were spontaneously springing up and taking on a more stable form; their sole desire was to pray and pray together. They began as a support for the Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza (House for the Relief of Suffering), and as a response to Padre Pio's appeal: "Never grow weary of praying. This is essential. Prayer penetrates the heart of God and obtains the graces needed"

In a world armed for war, Padre Pio wanted a world armed with prayer: Prayer is the best weapon we have, and the key to God's heart.

Padre Pio, through the stigmata he bore and the life of prayer he led, understood the sufferings of the infirm, as well as the prayers of both the sick and the healthy. 'Let us gather periodically for prayer in common. Today's society does not pray, that is why it is falling apart' (Padre Pio). The idea of Prayer Groups was promoted and supported by Padre Pio because he envisioned them and God's instruments of relief for a suffering world. Knowing that alone he could do little for those who suffer throughout the world, Padre Pio organized the Prayer Groups so that they would be a source of constant prayer embracing all those around the world who were needy in either body or soul.

~~OUR GROUP CHARISMS~~

1. We are pro-life and pro family
2. We believe in the importance of chastity
3. We pray a decade of the rosary and recite the St. Michael the Archangel prayer every day, for intentions as stated each week

God bless you!

"Pray, Hope, Don't Worry [and Do Good Works]" ~St. Padre Pio

Society of Friends of the Pallotine Seminary (Oltarzew, Poland)

Corinne Kennedy

This past year has been an exciting one for the Society of Friends of the Pallotine Seminary.

Our membership more than doubled with the launch in August 2019 with the introduction of the opportunity to Spiritually Adopt a Seminarian. Parishioners were invited to select a Seminarian to pray for and were provided with a prayer card with their photograph on it. There was such an enthusiastic and generous response from our parishioners, that every Seminarian wound up being adopted by at least 2 parishioners, and a few were lucky enough to be adopted by three. Over 65 parishioners participated in this program of Spiritual Adoption.

In November we had the pleasure of meeting with Fr. Denilson, the General Consulator of the Pallottine Fathers, as part of his canonical visit with the Pallottine Fathers working in the Hamilton Diocese.

Another exciting event that was the invitation to take part in a Pallottine Pilgrimage to Poland in June 2020, under the Spiritual Direction of Fr. Mirek Mejzner, Rector of the Pallottine Seminary. The plan was to begin the pilgrimage with a stay at the Seminary in Oltarzew so we could meet

the Seminarians we have been praying for. Even though the pandemic necessitated the cancellation of the pilgrimage, we hope to reschedule it once it is safe to travel again.

We are grateful for the on-going support of Fr. Aleks and Fr. Mirek.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Pat McCauley

St. Agnes Prayer Shawl Ministry began in 2009. Currently we have a small group who combine knitting, crocheting and prayer into a tangible symbol of care and concern and sometimes celebration.

In 2019 and 2020 we donated 44 Prayer Shawls, and this included a box of shawls and baby blankets sent to the mission at Swan River.

In these uncertain times of Covid-19 and isolation, we continue our shawl making at home and we are always in need of new members.

We also welcome requests for shawls which can be done by calling the Parish office or Pat McCarthy 519-885-3178 or Pat McCauley 519-885-3486

We also welcome and appreciate donations of yarn.

Member-At-Large

Jamie Jewer

My first year on Pastoral Council has been an interesting one for sure. It started with helping Father Aleks plan our 50th Anniversary celebrations, then it was a quick turnaround into Christmas and New Year's. Then before we knew it, COVID-19 was a thing that hit in March and we were thrust into this new reality. How would we attend Holy Mass? Luckily Father Aleks, Deacon Ed, and Dan Weber initiated an online Mass using the Zoom platform, which started on March 18th for a test run and the first general public Mass on Friday, March 20th. I wanted to put my skills with tech into play and offered to help wherever I could, so I started reading and then hosting Zoom masses, helping figure out the technical challenges to support some of the "enhancements".

Here are a few statistics you might find interesting regarding the online Mass celebrated from the Chapel using Zoom:

Our first Sunday Mass we hit our connection limit of 100 connections, limit increased to 300

- 50-70 = average connections for Weekday Holy Mass in first few weeks
- 178 = average connections for Sunday Mass
- 160 = connections on Good Friday
- 203 = connections for Easter Sunday
- 212 = peak # of connections for an online Mass (3rd Sunday of Easter)

- 26 = average connections for Saturday Mass
- 45 = average connections for Weekday Mass since Easter

I hope you've been able to participate in an online Mass, or at least have been able to find spiritual guidance through this COVID-19 Pandemic. I know it definitely helped ground me through this whole thing!

I also hope this message finds you and all of your loved ones safe, and that the Holy Spirit will move you to getting more involved with our parish.

Some of the Quiet groups within our St. Agnes Parish

Submitted by Marilynne Feeney

St. Agnes Altar Servers - st.agnesaltarservers@gmail.com

- We now have 3 gentlemen servers and about 20 youth, sounds like a lot, more help is needed.
- Training/formation is done when 2 or more children, teens or adults express an interest in learning how to participate on the altar. Interested, please send an email and we will chat.

St. Agnes Ushers st.agnesushers@gmail.com

- Currently we have 12 registered youth, ladies and gentlemen who assist with this important ministry weekly. As well as several whom we can call on for special occasions.
- If you are willing to commit to assisting on a regular or occasional basis to please send an email.

St. Agnes Prayer Network - st.agnesprayernetwork@gmail.com

- This prayer intentions network is available to parishioners and friends wishing to have prayers prayed for ones' self, friends, family, parishioners, causes, or anyone. Currently we have about 20 members, please, join us in prayer. All that is needed for prayers to be prayed for someone is send an email or call the parish office
- You may ask for prayers for anyone, Only Give First Name of Person(s) you request prayers for, God knows what people's needs are, no one else needs to know, or you may ask for prayers for a cause i.e.; end of the pandemic.

St. Agnes Return to the Sacraments and Vocations Prayer Network

The purpose of this network is as stated; Prayers for the Return of Family, Friends and All Others who have fallen away from the faith to find the strength to return to the Sacraments. We also pray for Vocations to the Religious Life and of course strength for those in formation of the

Religious Life. Currently we have about 12 members, please, join us in prayer at st.agnes.return.prayers@gmail.com.

Regarding Both of the Prayer Groups

- All emails are sent by BCC meaning no one sees anyone else's email address but their own.
- Requests and the names of our prayer partners are kept in the strictest confidence.
- Email addresses are confidential and sent out no more than 3x weekly.

Sacristy Ladies

There are four of us who take turns monthly, laundering the altar linens at all Holy Masses, as well as the lines on the altar, the tabernacle and under some statuary.

Canadian Rosary Brigade Rosary Making Group canadianrosarybrigade@gmail.com

- We have been active for 10 years making and leading the making of rosaries.
- Many members attend St. Agnes Parish, several attend other KW Parishes. Currently we have about 10 regular members. We make about 3000 rosaries annually.
- We have been leaving rosaries in baskets in the narthex of our St. Agnes church since we began.
- Rosaries are given to those in need in Kitchener, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada and abroad including Africa, Sri Lanka, through individuals and members of various religious communities
- These rosaries are given away to those in need in Kitchener, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada and abroad including Africa, Sri Lanka, through individuals and members of various religious communities.
- We make and quality check rosaries in our homes, we meet most Tuesdays in my home. Anyone wishing to join us is most welcome to contact me and we will go forth.
- Our ministry does not charge for rosaries, donations towards supplies is gratefully accepted and very much needed since we have not been in schools, we currently have little funds for supplies.

Financial Report

ST. AGNES PARISH -
WATERLOO

| INCOME & EXPENSES | | 2019 | 2018 |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| REVENUE | | Operating | Non-Operating |
| 1 | Regular Offerings | 320,878 | 352,182 |
| 2 | Sacramental Income | 1,125 | 1,510 |
| 3 | Legacies & Bequests and Other Donations | 13,051 | 17,796 |
| 4 | Sale of Religious Articles | 8,325 | 8,122 |
| 5 | Interest from All Sources | 2,037 | 1,935 |
| 6 | Fund Raising | | 13,919 |
| 7 | Rental Income and Recovery of Expenses | 5,350 | 6,905 |
| 8 | Grant from Diocese | 15,000 | 25,000 |
| 9 | Diocesan Collections | | 10,047 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | | 365,766 | 413,450 |
| EXPENDITURES | | Operating | Non-Operating |
| 10 | Church | 47,573 | 54,143 |
| 11 | Rectory | 20,439 | 23,280 |
| 13 | Salaries - Clergy & Laity | 149,624 | 147,922 |
| 14 | Sanctuary, Choir, Missals & Hymnals | 11,798 | 13,048 |
| 15 | Parish Office and Centre Expenses | 19,527 | 20,064 |
| 16 | Parish Committees & Fellowship Activities | 2,404 | 1,597 |
| 17 | Retreats, Seminars & Education Costs | 6,270 | 6,189 |
| 18 | Charitable Works of the Parish | 18,201 | 12,384 |
| 19 | Bank & Interest Charges | 968 | 1,019 |
| 20 | Cathedral Expense | 38,772 | 39,876 |
| 21 | HST/GST Unrefundable Portion | 9,457 | 5,828 |
| 22 | Fund Raising Expenses | | 1,063 |
| 23 | Major Renovations | 80,644 | 136,211 |
| 24 | Diocesan Payments | | 10,047 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | | 405,677 | 461,560 |
| SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) | | (39,911) | (48,110) |

Balance as at 31st December

| | | | YOY CHG |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| TOTAL INCOME FOR 2019 | 403,188 | 437,416 | (34,228) |
| TOTAL EXPENSES FOR 2019 | (421,266) | (472,670) | 51,404 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 188,319 | 307,469 | (119,150) |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 24,266 | 125,338 | (101,072) |
| EQUITY | 164,053 | 182,131 | (18,078) |

Scripture tells us that God owns all things.
He places material things in our possession.
These are not gifts.
Rather, He entrusts what is His to our care to use in His service.
It follows then, that we are not the owner
but a manager or a steward of God's property.

Finance Committee members: Fr. Aleks Mazur SAC,
Pastor Tony Maruna, President Elizabeth Ingle
Ronnie Mendonsa Maureen Ross

Our appreciation to the members of the Finance Committee
for their advice, guidance, and assistance through the year.



Thank you for continuing to support
St. Agnes Parish community
financially and spiritually.

No parish is complete without the generous people who give their
time by volunteering. A special thanks to our valuable volunteers.
We are truly blessed with many caring people who offer their time
and energy to the parish in so many ways!