

# **Baptism Preparation Ministry**

## **April 2018 Report**

This report is respectfully submitted by Fr. Vernon Boyd, Lisa Pryor and Diana Karkut.

The baptism of babies and children has taken place on the last Sunday of each month with the exception of March 2017 (Lent). In addition some baptisms have occurred on other Sundays or Saturday evenings because of personal family circumstances.

For the period October 2017 to April 9, 2018, 25 baptisms have taken place at Holy Rosary ....with more already scheduled for the end of this month and we anticipate at least one per month in the future.

We meet very lovely families and we share in the happiness that the new babies or younger children bring to young parents. We take approximately 20 - 30 minutes on the Thursday evening prior to Sunday baptism to meet with parents and godparents and provide them with an overview of baptism ... what it means, the significance of the rite of baptism and the many symbols that are used. We review the parts of the Mass where parents and godparents are asked to make their commitment to the church on behalf of their little ones. We then take them into the church and review logistics - where they sit, when and how they will process to the altar to present their child and of course, where the baptism will take place following the Mass.

We have had many comments to thank us for the pre-baptism session that we provide – even if it is only for logistical purposes!

It brings us great joy to welcome the youngest members of our parish community to God's family!

Fr. Boyd  
Lisa  
Diana

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)**  
Report for Stewardship Council  
April 2018

**Submitted by Therese Wright**

**Summary of Events since October 2017**

- **January - Catechist Professional Development evening.**  
Discussed the Parable of the Mustard Seed; a parable about the Kingdom of God and how it is presented to Level 1 children and then the deepening done with children in Level 2 & 3. Then moved to a "relationship" parable, The Parable of the Found Sheep. We have had two of these professional development meetings. Both have been well received. They are help form us in our faith and our abilities as catechists and bond us together as a community of catechists.
- **January – CGS participated in the Parish Ministry Fair.**  
A good opportunity to create awareness. Had one family with three children express interest for fall 2018.
- **Re-enactment of the last Supper**  
All classes acted out the Last Supper. This is an annual event in all the CGS classes and always remembered as their favourite class of the year. WE sit down to a meal of roasted leg of lamb, bitter herbs, haroset, flat bread and grape juice served in wine glasses! We hear the words that Jesus said for the first time at that Passover meal , words that had never been said before...Take and eat...Take and drink...
- **Good Friday Noon Liturgy.**  
Children in CGS participated as readers and cross bearers and purifiers of the cross as it was venerated. The catechists distributed communion. Both the children and the catechists were honoured to participate and I certainly hope we can continue to participate next year.
- **April – Catechist Planning Meeting**  
Our annual planning meeting takes place on Sunday April 8<sup>th</sup>. Catechists make their commitments know for 2018/2019, we decide the number of classes, days/times for next year and look over the list of students to determine which children are ready for the next level. We also plan for the End of Year Mass & Reception.
- **May – last classes**  
May 10-15 with the End of Year Mass & reception for families on Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.

**Good News Story**

See above...all good!

**Difficulties Encountered**

- Constant need to train catechists as we do get turn over. One will be retiring after this year and another may be returning. We are vulnerable because we have just enough catechists to cover the classes. People who express interest in training are not usually keen on travelling a

distance outside of Guelph for a course but this is necessary because we can't generate enough interest in the Guelph area for a course.

### **Fund Raising**

- **The program costs per child are sufficient to cover our needs.**

However, Therese Wright has joined the Board of Directors for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Association of Canada, and we are looking for donations to continue formation work across Canada and to update the CGSAC website. If you know of any potential sponsors, please have them contact me.

### **Assistance Required**

Promotion of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd to gauge interest in adult formation to become catechists. April 22<sup>nd</sup> is Good Shepherd Sunday but this is also the same weekend as the Volunteer Appreciation after 11:00 mass. Looking for a weekend after that to do a small talk from the pulpit and have an open house of the atrium with a table top display in the front and back foyer.

## **April 2018 Report from Friends of Jesus to Stewardship Council**

### **1. Summary of Events**

The Friends of Jesus has held 20 sessions since Sept 24, 2017, and we plan to hold at least another 4 sessions until the end of May 2018.

#### *About the Friends of Jesus Program*

We often have a group of 10 – 15 children in attendance, though that can range from 5 to 20. We gather in the Classroom during the first half of the 11:00 AM Sunday Mass. The children sit on the carpet around the leader, and the leader opens with a prayer. We usually have a short story and discussion, as well as a Gospel reading that has been summarized in such a way that children who are 4 to 6 years old can understand. The story and Gospel reading are provided in the Leader's Guide which comes with the 'Promise' program, which is part of the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies Faith Formation Program distributed in Canada by Novalis. The children take home their own copy of the Promise pamphlet which has a beautiful full-colour illustration of the Gospel reading, as well as some fun activities that they can finish at home with their families. The volunteers take the children back to the Sanctuary during the Prayers of the Faithful, to join their families for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

#### *About the Volunteers*

We have been blessed with three new volunteers this year. I approached one of the new volunteers, named Danielle Larsh, and asked her if she'd like to become the new Coordinator of the Friends of Jesus as of Fall 2018, and she enthusiastically said yes. I have been mentoring Danielle regarding the duties involved, and have full confidence that she will be a terrific coordinator. Danielle and I attended the Ministry Fair in February 2018 to promote the Friends of Jesus in the parish.

In total there are 10 volunteers signed up for the Friends of Jesus ministry. It would be ideal if each volunteer was able to sign up for one session per month, to share the workload equally. However, there are many volunteers that do not volunteer monthly, and the others volunteer more than once per month to fill up the schedule.

### **2. Difficulties Encountered**

The quality of the materials we follow for the lessons is outstanding and makes it relatively simple to plan and deliver the content of the weekly session, and the children appear to enjoy attending the sessions and happily participate in our discussions and activities. It is relatively simple to sort and organize the weekly packages for the volunteers to use. I send out a weekly email to the volunteers to ask them to sign up for the vacant spaces in our schedule. Perhaps there is a better way to engage the volunteers and to encourage the less active volunteers to sign up more often. I also have found it difficult to schedule in-person meetings with the volunteers over the years, due to everyone's busy

personal lives, so I send volunteer updates by email also and also speak with volunteers in person when we are scheduled on the same day. The main difficulty is engaging the less-active volunteers.

### 3. Assistance required from Council

The council does a great job of supporting the ministries, and the Friends of Jesus has everything we need to be successful. If you do hear of other volunteers looking to work with children, we could always use new volunteers to ensure we can continue operations as other volunteers become less available or move on to other opportunities.

### 4. Fundraising Report

We have not held any fundraising events.

### 5. Good News Story

It has been a pleasure to coordinate this ministry for the past six years, and I'm very grateful to Danielle Larsh for stepping into the role as the new coordinator in the fall. I've grown a lot in the role as Coordinator and will always value this experience. The Friends of Jesus is such a blessing for families with young children who find it difficult to sit quietly during the whole Mass. Parents have told me that their children look forward to coming each week, and they are able to continue the discussion of the Mass at home using the weekly Promise pamphlet. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

We were happy to be able to send our unused Promise pamphlets (from the sessions that were not held) with the Jamaica Group, who use the material to help St. Anne's Parish to establish a Children's Liturgy, as we have done in previous years.

Cluster Report Submission

1 message

To: Steve Wright <[REDACTED]>

Mon, Apr 2, 2018 at 10:18 AM

Steve – Hello. Here are my 2 reports – Pastoral Care and Volunteer Screening.

Thanks,

1 of 2

Pat

Ministry	<b>Pastoral Care Ministries</b>
Submitted by	Patrick McCann
Summary of Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have a Pastoral Care Council that consists of Fr. Boyd, Dolores Bergin, Nadia Martin and Pat McCann.</li> <li>The council supports several Pastoral Ministries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bereavement</li> <li>Communion to the Sick (Institutions)</li> <li>Communion to the Sick (Home)</li> <li>Home Visitation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Good News Story	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have a team of 6-7 Communion Ministers that bring communion every Sunday to over 20 Parishioners who are in local retirement or nursing homes.</li> <li>We have 7 trained Ministers of Communion to bring communion to people housebound.</li> <li>We have 9 volunteers who are on stand by for any requests for Home Visitations.</li> <li>We have a Bereavement Team that is providing mostly one to one support when requested.</li> </ul>
Difficulties Encountered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We need to continue to promote these very important Ministries. We are concerned that many Parishioners may not know they are available.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have the potential to offer a Bereavement program but have not been able to generate enough interest.</li> </ul>
Fundraising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We don't fundraise.</li> </ul>
Assistance Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please promote these Ministries and help us raise awareness.</li> <li>Please ensure they are supported in any work done by Stewardship Council.</li> </ul>

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<b>Ministry</b>	<b>Volunteer Screening</b>
Submitted by	Patrick McCann
Summary of Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have 4 on our committee – Melissa Buenaventura, Roger Manning, Pat McCann and Elizabeth Taborek.</li> <li>We attended a diocese screening workshop last fall to review some changes to the screening procedures.</li> </ul>
Good News Story	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have over 200 active volunteers in the Parish.</li> <li>We have 104 volunteers that work in high risk ministries.</li> <li>We interviewed and screened 6 new high risk in 2017.</li> <li>We are an authorized agent and are able to complete our own Police Records Checks.</li> </ul>
Difficulties Encountered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The committee works well together and Parishioners are very understanding of the need for screening.</li> </ul>
Fundraising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We don't fundraise.</li> </ul>
Assistance Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please continue to keep screening in your thoughts as your Ministries bring on new volunteers.</li> <li>We will be completing a full review of our position descriptions for all volunteer positions in 2018. We will require the support of all Ministry Leaders.</li> </ul>

April 2018

## Cluster Outreach- Fellowship Social Events

**Submitted by Christine Clementi**

**Summary: Our annual Parish breakfast was well attended with over 190 parishioners in attendance. We added homemade waffles and fruit salad to our menu which went over very well. The Knights of Columbus # 1507 were very helpful with setting up the hall, serving and hall cleanup. Missions Possible also assisted with baked deserts and kitchen cleanup. The event was extremely successful and went over just like clockwork.**

**Difficulties: There were no difficulties with set up, food prep, serving, "etc." except the issue of grease trap overflow in the basement which is an ongoing & unresolved issue whenever a major event occurs in our parish hall.**

**Good News Story: The parish breakfast continues to be a well attended event by our congregation with families, neighbours and friends gathering together for a quality breakfast brunch at a reasonable price.**

**Fundraising: The money that was made by the breakfast was divided between Missions Possible and Social events Committee. Funds raised by Social Events enable us to send two children annually from our parish elementary schools to Jesuit Camp Ekon for a week. We are a small group who are dedicated and hard working and we welcome any and all new members who would like to join us in this worthwhile parish ministry.**



## April, 2018 D and P Cluster Report

Since our autumn report our committee hosted the Share Lent Workshop on January 16, 2018. Fourteen people attended, eight of them from other parishes, and six of those from out of town. The theme for 2018 is Together in Peace.

The Lenten period is a busy one for D & P. It included the processing of symbols over four weeks: a bridge made of lego, a branch, a scroll, and a picture of clasped hands. Each symbol was intended to emphasize ways in which we build peace. The Lenten address was given by committee members at the end of the Eucharist on the weekend of March 10-11. On Friday, March 16 we facilitated a Way of the Cross which reflected the struggles of people throughout the world to live in dignity and peace. On Sunday, March 18 we offered our simple Solidarity Meal of homemade soup, a bun, and beverage to raise funds for Share Lent and to offer the parish an opportunity to hear a guest speaker. There were about 50 people attending which is more than usual, possibly because a parishioner, Pelagie Nkubito, spoke of her experience as a refugee. We raised slightly over \$400.

Our good news was that we had more people willing to process the symbols. The Ministry Fair was very helpful in this respect since we were well located in the hallway to approach people to participate in this way. Also a few parishioners came to thank us for facilitating the Way of the Cross which they found very moving. And people stayed behind after our Solidarity Meal to continue chatting with Pelagie and ask her more questions about her experience. One of our older parishioners said she always looks forward to hearing our Solidarity speaker. And finally another parishioner has expressed interest in joining our little group of four.

Essentially our difficulty remains that of involving more parishioners, especially youth. One committee member often states that we need to find new ways to reach out.

We do not have fundraising events for our committee, only for Share Lent. This represents a challenge because this year all committee members paid all costs associated with the Solidarity Meal out of our own pockets. There are costs associated with our Lenten display at the ambo but the chair has been reimbursed for those. The parish administrator has suggested that we be given a kitty to work with since we have gone into the hole with past expenses.

Future event: Showing of a D & P film on April 27, in the community room from 7-8pm, **Ethiopia Rising**, a successful initiative in reforestation.

Submitted by Alana Forrester, Chair

April 2018

Cluster	<b>Saturday Night Supper</b>
Submitted by	Diane Little
Summary of Events	No events
Good News Story	We are always told, by the guests, that Holy Rosary hosts the best suppers.
Difficulties Encountered	We have difficulty getting enough people to volunteer to make some of the menu items.
Fundraising	None
Assistance Required	

April 2018

<b>Cluster- Outreach</b>	<b>Holy Rosary Pantry</b>
<b>Submitted by</b>	Joanne Tersigni and Melissa Buenaventura
<b>Summary of Events</b>	<p><b>October</b>-Pantry received generous food donations from Holy Rosary and St. Patrick Schools Thanksgiving Drives. Monetary donations include: <b>November</b> Collection- \$2500; <b>December</b> - Knight of Columbus cake and cookie sale -\$1900; RCA Concert- \$718.69; Personal hygiene products were received through the Tree of Hope. More food donations.</p> <p><b>January</b>- Participated in Ministry Fair which garnered interest among some parishioners. Distributed 40 flyers</p> <p><b>March</b>- Participated in Stations of the Cross. Received generous Holy Thursday food donations.</p> <p>Weekly grocery donations continue.</p> <p>Since January, there have been 102 calls for assistance and these households include 66 children.</p>
<b>Good News Story</b>	<p><b>Two stories:</b>A recipient of Pantry service expressed his sincere thanks and asked that his gratitude be extended to the congregation. He is most grateful to be able to access the service. A couple who attended the Friday Station of the Cross led Pantry Members was so touched by the readings donated \$250.</p>
<b>Difficulties Encountered</b>	<p>When schedule is reorganized to ensure foyer is appropriately "free" when a funeral is on, some callers are unable to come at appointed time but fail to inform Pantry members on duty. Some have dropped in instead of calling for appointment. Identified issues are dealt with by emphasizing the procedure for requesting assistance.</p>
<b>Fundraising</b>	<p>Not done actively as parishioners are aware of the envelope collections ( November/May) , regular drop off of groceries and third party collections through Knights of Columbus, Royal City Ambassadors, St Patrick and Holy Rosary Schools</p>
<b>Assistance Required</b>	<p>Congregation's continued prayers and support</p>

Cluster	RCIA <span style="float: right;">April 2018</span>
Submitted by	Stephen Wright
Summary of Events	<p>RCIA has journeyed with 3 new catholics through to the Easter Vigil and welcomed them into the church together with the daughter of one of them, so in all 4 joined the church at the Vigil</p> <p>On May 3 we will have our last evening gathering.</p> <p>On June 24 we will have a year end bbq celebration.</p> <p>On September 29, 2018 we will hold a retreat.</p>
Good News Story	<p>One of our new catholics was also baptized with her daughter at the vigil.</p> <p>On our first RCIA gathering since the vigil we invited those that were in RCIA in 2017 and had a wonderful sharing.</p> <p>We continue to see that the sign on Stevenson Street gets noticed – there’s usually one attendant per year that “saw the sign”.</p> <p>We are also seeing that the group from 2017 are an especially close group, many came out for this year’s vigil.</p>
Difficulties Encountered	<p>We are not experiencing any difficulties that interfere with our ministry.</p> <p>It would be good for our ministry if we had one or two more facilitators (a sort of succession).</p> <p>We didn't participate in the Stations this year - we usually do, it is an important part of the journey - somehow it escaped our notice.</p>
Fundraising	no fundraising
Assistance Required	<p>Continued awareness of our ministry.</p> <p>Prayer for more to come forward to join the church. We have some nominal costs that need to be covered.</p>

## Report to Stewardship Council – April 2018

### From Mission Possible

Since October 2017, we have had an apple pie and fudge fundraiser. So far in 2018, we have had 2 M.P.O. collections and co-hosted the Parish Breakfast with the Social Committee on April 8.

The apple pie and fudge fundraiser raised \$ \$781.61 after expenses of \$490.39 were taken into account. The fudge fundraiser raised \$110. 142 pies were made after orders had been given.

M.P. sent \$1000 to each of the four missionaries we support. They are Fr. Locky Flanagan from Zimbabwe and Fr. John Mahon in Kenya (both are Spiritans) and Fr. Bill Robins in Nepal and Br. Paul Desmarais in Zambia (who are Jesuits).

The 2 M.P.O. collections raised \$ 617.35 which is down from last year.

Good News: 14 volunteers helped our members make apple pies.

For assistance , we would like you to support our collections and our annual fundraisers. We also could use some money to defray our apple pie expenses.

April 2018

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

We meet every Monday morning at 10.00 am for about 75 minutes. There are people on the committee that organize and facilitate the meetings. The average attendance so far this season is between 20 and 30 people (except in the last ice storm!). The following shows the programs completed,

**MERE CHRISTIANITY — BY C.S. LEWIS** VIDEO AND BOOK STUDY This is a classic book on basic Christianity, written by an ex-agnostic. It is based on a series of talks given by Lewis on the BBC during WW2

**A BIBICAL WALK WITH MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD — RAYMOND SRI** In a six part video series Sri narrates the Gospel stories about Mary in the background of locations in the Holy Land

**"IMAGES OF GOD"** led by Tarcia Gen/vinig A two part talk on our concepts of God

**CONVERSION** Following the Call of Christ

**BISHOP ROBERT BARRON** A six part video series on people in the Bible whose lives were changed by the response to God's call  
And currently on going.

**PERFECTLY YOURSELF**, by Matthew Kelly  
A book review and video