

The Canonical Chronicles

Edition: #5
November 2018



Meetings

Wardens: November 22nd at 2pm
Parish Council: November 29th at 2pm

Remembrance Day

There will be a combined service at 9:30am on Sunday November 11th to accommodate those wishing to attend the laying of the wreaths at the White Rock Cenotaph.

Parish Profile Next Meeting

Sunday, NOVEMBER 18th

There will be a combined service at 9:30am on November 18th, followed by a plenary focus group discussion at 11am. All are welcome to attend.

Parish Profile Update



Evaluation Process

The first phase of building a Parish Profile has been completed. We met with over seventy parishioners in eight focus groups over eight weeks to discuss our *Likes*, our *Concerns* and our *Wishes*. All participants were invited to write their opinions on "post-it" notes that were placed on charts.

Rising to the top of our *Likes* were comments about how welcoming our parishioners are towards one another and to visitors, how Holy Trinity feels like home and how much members enjoy the liturgy. Amongst the *Concerns* were comments about our decreasing membership, about clergy accountability and our financial challenges. Included in our *Wishes* were yearnings for a thriving faith community, a relevant vision for the future and a menu of qualities we seek in a new incumbent.

Comments from these discussions (and from the survey handouts) are now being evaluated and quantified. By totalling the "post-it" notes for each category we will be able to reasonably

assign a value to what is uppermost in parishioners' minds. We have invited Tasha Carrothers, Diocesan Missioner for Congregational Development, to do this work.

The Next Step

On November 18th, at 11am (after the combined 9:30am service) we will gather for a plenary session to share the results of the evaluation; to discuss priorities uppermost on our minds; and to use those findings to get a broad consensus of a vision for the future. This work is crucial to the creation of a strategic plan that forms the heart of a Parish Profile.



The Rammo Family

Recently we received an invoice from the Canadian Government for \$8,716.22 to cover the family's travel costs to Canada. This expense is part of our responsibility as a sponsor and we have paid it in full.

A BIG thank you to Carol De Boeck for donating \$5,000 towards this cost.

Our Financial Challenge

As you are aware, Holy Trinity has been carrying annual operating deficits for a number of years (see Special Vestry report "Rectory Replacement Proposal" page 9). What makes this fiscal year different is that we will be drawing down on our Special Gift fund to meet our budgeted expenses for the remainder of this fiscal year. Going forward we will be discussing our financial position with Diocesan Staff with a goal of seeking relief by:

- Recognizing that we are in an interim period during which it is common for revenues to decline
- Considering our proposal to use the rectory as an income stream, and
- Reviewing our Diocesan Assessment obligations

These initiatives will give us much-needed breathing room to complete our strategic plan for a thriving parish.