

**ST. MARY'S UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Golden Agers Centre Church Basement**  
**Tuesday, November 21, 2017**

**Executive:**

Pastor: Fr. Bohdan Lukie, CSSR <i>(Absent)</i>	President: Gwen Bilyk
Assistant Pastor: Fr. Raymond Lukie, CSSR	Vice-president:
Assistant Pastor: Fr. Methodius Kushko, CSSR	Past President : Geraldine Koban <i>(Absent)</i>
	Treasurer: Kathy Rusnak /Leona Matisho
	Secretary: Vicky Ostrowercha

**Committees:**

Children & Youth: Lana Klemetski <i>(Absent)</i>	Shelley Kluk <i>(Absent)</i>
Communications: Julie Abrametz	Tom Abrametz Mary Prybylski
Education: Pat Thompson <i>(Absent)</i>	Janet Lawrance
Finance: Fred Schrader <i>(Absent)</i>	
Liturgical: Lorne Stechyshyn	Ron Wizniak <i>(Absent)</i> Laurie Fedorowich <i>(Absent)</i>
Maintenance: Peter Moroz	Bob Paskaruk
Outreach: Verlee Zulyniak	
Parish Activities: Dolores Harris <i>(Absent)</i>	
Stewardship: Vi Protz	

**Parish Organizations:**

Cultural Centre: Russ Thompson <i>(Absent)</i>	Golden Agers: Verna Moroz
K of C: Dave Spelay <i>(Absent)</i>	UCWLC: Doreen Rathgeber
UCBC: Peter Moroz	

1. Meeting was called to order by Gwen Bilyk at 7:00 pm.

2. Opening Prayer: Led by Father Ray

3. Welcome:

4. Adoption of Agenda:

- a. Additions/Amendments:
  - Under 12. New Business:
  - b. Christmas Gifts for Fathers
  - c. Liability Insurance
  - d. Choirs

b. Motion to Adopt Agenda:

*Motion: That the agenda be adopted as amended.*

Moved: Vi Protz;

Seconded: Verlee Zulyniak

Carried.

5. Minutes:

a. Errors or Omissions:

b. Adoption of Minutes:

Motion: *That the minutes be adopted as presented.*

Moved: Vicky Ostrowercha;                      Seconded: Doreen Rathgeber                      Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes: nil

7. Treasurer's Report: submitted by Kathy Rusnak

Motion: *That the Treasurer's report for October 2017 be accepted as presented.*

Moved: Kathy Rusnak;                      Seconded: Verlee Zulyniak                      Carried.

8. Correspondence:

9. Committee Reports:

a. President's Report: Written Report submitted by Gwen Bilyk

Welcome to WINTER WONDERLAND at least in Nipawin where it has been snowing all day—looks like 4-6 inches already. [this is Tuesday November 14]

On Saturday some of us will attend the Stewardship Forum in Saskatoon and will give an update on the discussions taking place as we attempt to project where our Parish/Eparchy will be in the next 10-15 years. Should be an interesting forum and hopefully productive as well.

The Christmas season is swiftly approaching, a busy time for everyone as we prepare ourselves both Spiritually as well as festively for the "BIRTH OF JESUS"

Our Parish Fathers are working in very difficult and stressful conditions right now, let us offer them our prayers and support in any way we can.

Fathers, please feel free to ask for our help as we may not always know what we can help you with.

Sincerely,

Gwen Bilyk

President, Parish Council

b. Finance Committee: No report

c. Liturgical: No report

d. Parish Activities: No report

e. Maintenance: No report

f. Children & Youth: No report

g. Education: Report by Janet Lawrance

• Third Session of the DVD Bible Study program was held on November 19, 30 people attending, next session is December 3

• Ukrainian Class holding a concert on December 11, 7 p.m., all are welcome Ukrainian language classes continue on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30. There are 16 students registered, but 14 have been attending. Vi would like to invite everyone to come to a class to check it out.

**h. Communications:** Written Report by Tom and Julie Abrametz

- Many parishioners from Yorkton attended the Priestly Parastas in Ituna for Father Peter Pidskalny on Monday, October 23 at seven o'clock in the evening. Father Peter's first assignment was to St. Mary's in Yorkton from 1972-73. In August of 2008 he was again assigned to Yorkton serving until 2015. He will be greatly remembered by members of the Yorkton Parish community. Vichnaya Pamiat"
- St. Mary's Bible Study Program 28 people attended the first "An engaging journey Through the Bible" on Sunday, October 22, just after the 9:00 am Sunday Liturgy. This Bible Study Program will be held every second Sunday, continuing into 2018. This is a program to help one better understand the meaning behind the Scriptures and how it relates to our everyday life! The instructors are Pat Thompson and Janet Lawrance.

**i. Stewardship:** Submitted by Vi Protz

Слава Ісусу Христу !

I pray for all Bishops and priests especially our Frs. Bohdan, Methodius and Ray, also for Frs. Jeffrey and Len; for the repose of Fr. Peter's soul; for vocations, our poor priests are taxed to the limit. I pray for all Golden Agers for continued health , of all parishioners and my family. I also pray for all living and deceased; for souls in purgatory, for Pope Francis. God bless you all. Love you lots.

Yours in the Christ child,

As always,

Vi Protz

**j. Outreach:** Written Report submitted, November 21, 2017

Our parishioners donated \$792.00 in the Thanksgiving Outreach envelopes. We also collected approximately 23 bags of food items - these groceries were given to St. Mary's School for their Lunch Program.

A big thank you to our parishioners for their generous support.

Verlee Zulyniak

Elizabeth Zahayko

**k. Parish Organizations:**

**i. UCBC:** Written Report submitted by Peter Moroz

- 3 Members attended the Eparchial Convention in Saskatoon in October
- Approved monetary gifts for the Fathers
- Annual meeting will be December 17

**ii. UCWLC:** Report submitted by Doreen Rathgeber

- Christmas Bake Sale will be Sunday, November 26, 2017, 1:00 pm – Perogies, cabbage rolls, kolach, dainties and squares for sale. Join us for coffee and dessert after you make your purchases
- December 4, 2017 – Christmas gathering – Knights of Columbus and priests are invited
- 7 UCWLC members attended the 30th Eparchial Convention in Saskatoon, Geraldine Koban, Verna Moroz, Elizabeth Zahayko, Elsie Stechyshyn, Joyce Martynuik, Gwen Bilyk and Doreen Rathgeber – "Our Home, Our Family and our Future"

**iii. Knights of Columbus:** No report

**iv. UCY:** no report

**v. Golden Agers:** Report by Verna Moroz

- Bingos continue every Thursday, Christmas party will be December 4, then a break until the New Year.

**vi. Cultural Centre:** No report

10. Adoption of Reports:

Motion: *That the Committee and Parish Organization reports be accepted as received.*

Moved: Kathy Rusnak;

Seconded: Leona Matisho

Carried.

11. Old / On-going Business:

a. Stewardship Forum, November 18, Saskatoon

- Doreen Rathgeber, Geraldine Koban, Pat Thompson, Delores Harris and I attended the forum in Saskatoon on Saturday. Father Ray was in attendance as well. The forum was well attended although I am not sure of the numbers but perhaps 100 plus. The focus of the forum was to put an action plan in place so all parishes in the Eparchy of Saskatoon will take a close look at where we are now and where we may be heading in the future --- are we a growing parish, are we a declining parish – are we in a plateau.
- Forms are in the process of being filled out that will provide us with an overview. We heard from various parishioners who told stories of the closing of their churches – some were sold and were renovated to become a personal home, some were torn down and the lumber salvaged and some beyond repair were burned. Some sold to another Parish to continue as a place of worship.
- It is recognized that mistakes occurred along the way but learning from mistakes will pave the way to better methods of assessing the life of a parish and dealing with the grief of closure. We must ensure that future generations have a place to receive the Sacraments and catechesis.
- Cemeteries in our Eparchy must be maintained. Therefore, this is part of the assessment plan being carried out. Some parishes have taken steps to set up investments where the interest only will be used for the upkeep of the cemeteries in the event of closure or removal of their church.
- At the end of the forum we were asked to set up a temporary executive for a Pastoral District Council to start the process of bringing the parishes of our District together to implement the data gathering in their respective parish whether still active or already closed.
- The appointed executive for the Yorkton District is:
  - Doreen Rathgeber -- as Chair ---- Yorkton
  - Martha Kruda -- as Secretary --- Beaverdale
  - Henry Dozorec -- as 3rd member --- Wroxton

This committee will arrange for a meeting with all parish reps in the Yorkton District and at that meeting a representative will be appointed to sit on the Pastoral District Council. A new representative will be elected at each Parish AGM thereafter.

12. New Business

- a. Christmas Social – December 19, supper at 6:00
- b. Christmas gifts for Fathers – as per standing motion
- c. Liability Insurance paid and statement reviewed
- d. Choirs – Require accountability for the \$500.00 per year given to each choir.  
Each choir should provide statements to Parish Council, showing bank balances, receipts, etc.

13. Pastor's Report and Updates: Father Ray

- Yorkton now covers Ituna and Melville district, putting a strain on the Fathers, asking for our support and prayers
- Father Ray has been appointed as the Administrator for Ituna and Melville, the schools will feel the major impact of this
- Father Bohdan continues in Yorkton
- Will be changes in the future, talks continue with the Eparchy and Ukraine

14. Meeting Dates for December 2017
  - a. Executive: December 12, 2017
  - b. Parish Council: December 19, 2017
15. Motion of Adjournment: Gwen Bilyk at 7:55 pm.
16. Closing Prayer: Led by Father Kushko

*Minutes recorded by: Vicky Ostrowercha*