



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**Our Lady of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church, Iqaluit**  
**September 4, 2011**

Present:

Priest: Fr. Daniel Perreault  
Chair Greg Cayen  
Treasurer Mila Dulatas  
Secretary Liz Cayen

Elsie Van Rooy, Renée Lefebvre, Francois Picotte, Mihalea Diaconescu,

1. Call to Order and Opening Prayer - The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. Fr. Daniel led in the opening prayer.

2. This is the beginning of Fr. Daniel's third liturgical year with us. When he first came to us, he put out a challenge – How can we make our church here in Iqaluit grow? There has been evangelization training and that process is continuing. The music, both with and without instrumental accompaniment is very good. This year Fr. Daniel would like to focus on liturgical growth as we, as a parish, look to ways to improve.

He will begin training servants of the altar next Saturday as it is important to involve the children in the process. One of the elements is how to make our mass more visually appealing and meaningful. We will need to purchase albs for the altar servers – the cost for a good quality alb is approximately \$180. Fr. Daniel was asking permission to purchase 7 – 10 albs in varying sizes to accommodate the altar servers. Waist cords and cross cords in the various liturgical colours would also be purchased. The Council approved this purchase.

Fr. Daniel has also been investigating the purchase of a sanctuary lamp. Our current one relies on electricity and it was suggested that one with a real flame be purchased. Needless to say it must be safe. This purchase was also approved.

We also discussed how we now “wash the hands” during the eucharist. Fr. Daniel would like to implement a change which would see an altar server using a pitcher with a bowl and a “real” towel. This was approved by the Council. The towels will also be used for baptism.

Altar servers will be part of the processional each Sunday they are there, whether or not they are serving that Sunday. We also discussed bringing the gifts to the altar with the offering. We will have to look at some logistics for this, but this was approved in principle.

Fr. Daniel is also considering the use of liturgical banners which would hang between the cross and the tabernacle. Given the limited wall space, this likely will not happen.

With regard to the new liturgy as mandated by Pope Benedict, Fr. Daniel has order pamphlets which explain the changes. The changes are to be implemented in Advent. Fr. Daniel will introduce the changes over the next few months.



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The issue of reading the Holy Scriptures in the three languages was discussed. Fr. Daniel pointed out that the gift of the Holy Scriptures is one of the holiest gifts that we receive during mass and they are to be proclaimed. Given how special and holy this gift is, it was decided that the first and second readings would be in French or Inuktitut as well as English. The Holy Gospel will be proclaimed in English only.

Fr. Daniel will also be introducing more meditation during the mass – during the homily and after the eucharist. This will require that the choir goes for the eucharist first and then the rest of the congregation. This will be so that we can continue our experience with Jesus Christ through meditation.

All changes to the mass will be progressive.

There are parents in the parish requesting that someone look after the children during mass. It was decided that this should be a parent-driven initiative rather than a Council-driven initiative. At the last diocese meetings, parishes were given direction in terms of Criminal Records Checks for those working with children, etc.

This is the beginning of the centennial marking the arrival of Roman Catholic priests in Nunavut. Fr. Daniel has introduced the poster. During the year, we will do several celebrations to mark this event.

We also discussed having candles in church to pray for people (the sick, the departed, etc.) There is limited room in the sanctuary. One way that this could happen is that people can use the sanctuary lamp and make a donation to the purchase and maintenance of the lamp.

The annual turkey raffle and bake sale will be held in late November, to ensure that we have less conflicts with our Christmas sales and events.

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 12:25 p.m.