

SACRED HEART PARISH

465 Curling St. Corner Brook

DIOCESAN PLANNING PROCESS REPORT NUMBER TWO

Question One: Having reviewed the church survey summary, are you satisfied that it adequately reflects the state of the parish?

YES, at the time of its submission.

Despite many challenges we are remaining welcoming, positive and focused.

Our volunteer base is strong and we are still financially sound. Many capital projects have been done- new windows, beautification of the grounds, our CMIC loan for Rectory and Church repairs was paid off quickly.

Question Two: Has the situation in the parish change/evolved/developed since this survey/report was completed in June 2105?

Yes, there have been tangible/concrete examples.

- In January of 2016, the Liturgy Committee presented a 4-week session on Mary, the Mother of God.

-For the past year, we have offered a weekly Bible Study session with 14-20 participants on a regular basis.

-During Lent of 2016, we held a well-attended Parish Mission to mark the Year of Mercy.

-We provide The Word Among Us booklets (with daily Mass readings) monthly to our people.

-We have a *Pray with Us* link on our website where one can find various resources for daily reading and meditation.

-We subscribe to the Prairie Messenger and make copies available at the back of the church.

-We have a well-stocked Pamphlet Ministry display at the back of the church. These address many Catholic topics.

Yes, people are talking and it is mostly positive; there is an undercurrent of excitement and contentment.

But, among a few- some of whom were the backbone of this parish- there still exists bitterness. For many years, children were denied sacraments in this parish and that wound is

not yet healed.

Question Three: In going forward, what are the challenges that need our focus and attention?

The number one response is always youth involvement. (To that end, we will sponsor the NET youth ministers here in our parish during Lent of 2017.

The number two response is that our church is out of tune with the modern world. While the ordinary parishioner feels dis-empowered to deal with this issue, they are praying for our leaders to LEAD.

The church should address the role of married men and women in today's church. We should begin ordaining Deacons for parish work. The sexual abuse by clergy has never been adequately addressed in this diocese.

Question Four: How can the Planning Committee assist in the fulfilling of parish goals?

Action on some of the concerns listed above might be a good starting point.

Actualization of positive signs (visits) to show concern and empathy for parishes as they struggle with day to day concerns. In other words, be visible, be open, be encouraging, be attentive, be receptive to new ideas. Some respondents said this questionnaire was a poor attempt as a second stage.

Please keep this process dynamic and not stale.