

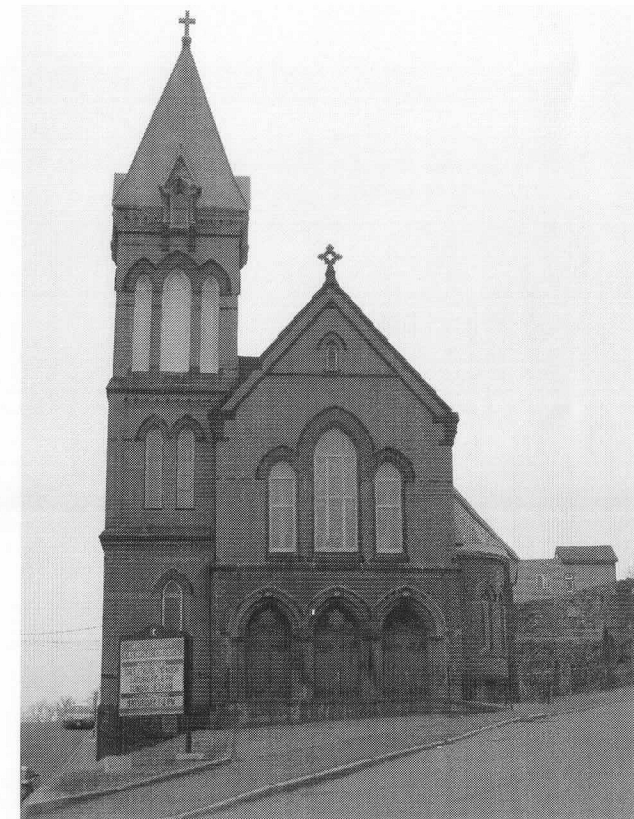
- Structured shut-down plan.
- Things should be done now.
- Details of the finances.
- Look to increase numbers and activities.
- If you can't sustain financially, close it now – do not delay – too stressful.
- If we can't sustain the buildings, sell the property and rent worship space nearby.
(Rocmaura / Ruth Ross) in order to keep church family together.
Builds stronger church family.
- Church is just a building.
- Parishioners can't give any more than what they do.
- Fund raising can't fix the problem.
- Financial stress on parishioners is not Christ-like.
- What would Jesus do?
- Find a more feasible place to worship.

Other comments / responses:

- Last service at a closing church was standing room only.
- Church is not defined by a structure.
- Tried of being too burdened.
- Where will the new life be?
- If we are to close, do it sooner than later.
- Solution can be to rent space; possibly Rocmaura.
- Problem is losing parishioners and getting more parishioners
lies on the shoulders of the priest.
- If we were to have one Mass would it help? Sunday is the best time.
It doesn't bring more finances but could impact on heating.
- Ever any contact with past members? Invitation letter in regards to our
Financial situation – possibly returning.
- Sad situation that this has come to finances in making decisions –
great impact on seniors or fixed budgets shouldn't wait more years.
- Crucial crossroads.
- Bring more money.
- Cut expenses.
- Parish merging.
- Nice to bring younger people in.
- If not financially feasible, too stressful to ask for more money.
- Younger people with programs.

Facts Sheet Information & Parishioner's Reflections / Responses

Parish Discernment Meeting (Wednesday, May 8, 2013)



FACTS, QUESTIONS AND PARISHIONERS'S RESPONSES
HOLY TRINITY PARISH DISCERNMENT MEETING
(WEDNESDAY, MAY 8TH 2013)

FACTS ABOUT OUR PRESENT PARISH REALITY

1. The number of baptisms in the last 5 years was: 32
 The number of baptisms last year was: 5

2. The number of funerals in the last 10 years was: 125
 The number of funerals last year was: 21

3. The number of parishioners using envelopes is: 107
 The number of envelopes returned each week: 40 - 45

4. The number of people presently coming to Holy Trinity is 20 – 25 for
 the Saturday evening Mass and 50 – 60 for the Sunday morning Mass;
 a total number of 70 – 80 people for our weekend Masses.

5. The operating deficit last year (2012) was \$ 51,000.00

6. The projected deficit for this year (2013) is \$ 40,000.00
 We presently need \$ 800.00 more a week to break even.

7. At the present rate at which we are depleting our investments, the
 \$ 161,000.00 left in our building fund will be gone in 3 – 4 years.
 At that point we will not have the funds to provide heat in the winter.

After hearing the facts concerning our present reality, our facilitator,
Sister Sandra Barrett, asked us to consider the following question:
“Having heard the facts concerning this parish – what is our Christian response?”

1. **Question # 1 and Parishioner's responses:**
 What concerns you about the future of our parish,
 given the background information you heard tonight?
 - Raising money: (649, spring tea, luncheon, auction 45 card party, bingo)
 - Recruiting new parishioners; particularly youth; youth oriented projects.
 - Possibility cancelling Saturday night Mass. Have Mass Sunday only.
 - There is an incredible spirit in this community, but the energy level – few young people involved; few programs. We need to do more programs for people.
 - Stewardship; How are we fulfilling our Christian mission in using our resources fruitfully rather than just maintenance?
 - Will Holy Trinity Church close and when?
 - Are there ways to save on the church's budget?
 - How do we entice parishioners to return?
 - Will we “merge” with another church?
 - Will closing the rectory be beneficial?
 - Will priests live in one rectory?
 - Vocations to fill the retired priest vacancies.
 - Is more prayer beneficial?

2. **Question # 2 and Parishioner's responses:**
 What do you think should be done when your parish, Holy Trinity,
 is no longer financially sustainable? When should things be done?
 - Attract more parishioners.
 - Fundraising activities (cards, bingo, etc.).
 - Publicity – Channel 10.
 - Pamphlets (a mail-out in the community).
 - Bring back parishioners and young families.
 - Easier access to the website.
 - Look at the time of Mass schedules.
 - Promote activities on outside sign.
 - Try to get help from the Knights of Columbus.
 - A Parishionership drive – open house.