

**Minutes of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**  
**January 17, 2017**  
**Annex of the church**

**Members Present:**

ExOfficio Member:

Father Bob Spencer

Parish Council Representatives:

Claire Clasen, Sheila Horan, Barry Yachem, Melissa Madrigal, Lance Solaroli, Sue Wilkinson

Committee Members:

Debbie Gausmann: RE & Adult Faith Formation; Larry Kervella: Youth Ministry Representative, Dave Stallard: Liturgy Committee; Rick Gausmann: House Church Leadership Committee; Virginia Cotter: Parish Social Ministries; Nate Garn: New Evangelization

Visitors:

Lori Yankoski

**Members Absent:**

Parish Council Representatives:

Dick Stocchetti, Jim Hines, Frank Grim

Committee Members:

Anne Boeh: Community Life

**Opening Prayer and reflection:** Led by Sue. Parish Council Is Reflection with candles; Reading from daily readings from the Gospel of Mark.

**Faith Formation:** Went over and discussed pages 14-16 of the Called To Serve document.

**Discussion of pages 14-16 (Characteristics of a Parish Pastoral Council):**

Questions were posed to the group: What does it (page 14) say about the character of the PPC? How do we demonstrate the traits now? What more can we do to develop it? There were several responses:

- We are prophetic – see what needs to be done and we work on it
- We are representative – areas, backgrounds, ages – we are the parish
- Committee has been serving and doing their work, but we need to have our vision to guide us and to co-ordinate our parish
- We have gotten used to doing our “own thing”
- Social ministries coordinate, work together and have a common focus.
- The mission needs to be revisited (done prayerfully). Now that we have a parish council we will be able to get moving again. A retreat is a possibility
- The house church needs to work with the pastor and see what we are to be and how we are to serve. May need to re-form the house church.
- How shall we work on the Mission/Vision: Retreat? Small Group? Outside facilitator? We need to look at where we came from, where we are now, and where we will be.

**Old Business:**

- Social Group – this is still being worked on. It should include all groups doing outreach.

- Religious Ed 5-year plan – See the RE and Faith Formation report

### **New Business/Pastors Notes: From Father Bob**

- We need to work on our Mission and vision
- The Bishop will be retiring. There will be NO new building projects at least until we have a new Bishop
- Father Bob has been appointed to St. Kateri for 6 years.
- Monthly – each ministry will give a brief talk (2-3 minutes) at all 3 masses and be available after mass to talk with people about that ministry.
- LPA – The Religious ED and youth are meeting, but the clergy don't seem to want to get together. Need to work on connections. The Hospital coverage is spotty. The clergy did meet on a study day for the Annual appeal, but there needs to be more.
- Looking at finances: We are behind in meeting our financial obligations – giving is down. We need to increase tithing. Need to motivate people to give. Can perhaps show how much is taken in and what is needed (so people can see we don't have enough funds). May have someone from the finance council talk at the masses.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **New Evangelization:** Nate Garn:

The Evangelization Team has not met since our last Parish Council meeting, next meeting will be Jan 19<sup>th</sup>. **Items to be discussed are:**

- A parish picnic team will need to be assembled as soon as possible. Many of the same people will need to be involved because of their responsibilities, but we'd like to have an actual team of parishioners' working on this instead of the Evangelization Team.
- We want to bring a few more people onto the team. This will bring fresh ideas and energy to the group and broaden the awareness of the New Evangelization
- Parish Directory
- Discussion of a couple possible ministries that have been brought to our attention. Will bring a report on that at next meeting.

#### **House Church Leadership Committee:** Rick Gausmann

- Rick Gausmann met with Linda Gregory from St. Therese in Mathews last Thursday. They are starting a House Church ministry and are looking at how we do things.
- **The January HCLC meeting, Jan 10 was cancelled due to road conditions.**
- We have started putting together a schedule for soup suppers. Will finalize in February. Also, will have the committee consider changing to pot luck dinners next year.

#### **Social Ministries:** Virginia Cotter:

##### **1. Haiti Twinning**

- Many thanks to your generous support of the Student Sponsorship drive which ended Jan. 15. We exceeded our education support goal of \$50,000! Sponsorships are available year round. Please contact Judy Townsend at judy.townsend@verizon.net if interested.

- We had a very successful 5K race (year 5 for Haiti benefit). We raised \$14,679.20 which translates to one year of free education for 146 students. Total 300 runners/walkers and 108 sponsors.
- Memorial for Audrey Barbour = \$980.00 (1/16/17)
- We have already transferred \$20,000.00 to the Haiti Outreach Program, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Knoxville, TN. Another \$20K will be sent this week.
- Please check our Haiti page on our parish website for updates on our Haiti twinning.

2. **PORT Homeless Shelter** The St. Kateri team hosted PORT at Temple Baptist Church on Nov. 26-27, 2016. PORT and LINK homeless shelters are open through March. They have no budget with the parish.

3. **Kairos Prison Ministry:** One Kairos member attended a one-day instructional in Nov and one Kairos member attended a two-hour reunion in Dec. Our Kairos ministers serve at Sussex II prison in Waverly.

#### 4. Food Pantry

	Seniors	Adults	Children	Totals
JulDec	253/328	1780/2202	1146/1355	3179/3885

\*individuals/visits (includes return visits)

\*21 meals per person served, as each time they come they get a week's meals for each member of the family

#### 5. Parish Thrift Shop

Thrift Shop for the month of Nov/Dec. spent \$7,000.00 for food purchases for the food pantry

\$10,400.00 in medical, rental & utility assistance for Poquoson and York county residents and

\$3,000.00 for gift cards given to The Empty Stocking Fund.

We are grateful for all those who donate clothing and other goods to the shop, and those who support us, and the food pantry, with their generous donations.

We thank our ministers/volunteers who give so generously of their time.

6. **Local outreach** - About 13 of our parishioners work a soup supper lunch this past Saturday at St Paul's Episcopal Church.

7. **March for Life** - January 27. Bus sign up at the AFF table.

8. **Virginia Catholic Conference** - Please visit the VCC website for information on legislation of interest to both Virginia dioceses. The Virginia General Assembly runs Jan 11 - Feb. 25, 2017. Please visit the Virginia Catholic Conference website ([www.vacatholic.org](http://www.vacatholic.org)) for an outline of the VCC legislative agenda. Legislative Advocacy Day is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 9.

**Parish Community Life:** Anne Boeh and Elaine Riley

Since the last committee report at the Oct council meeting the Parish Community Life Committee has been called on to support the funerals of 4 longtime parishioners whose families requested luncheons after their funerals.

Sam Wasaff on Nov 5, 2016

Paul Keddell on Dec 10, 2016

Paul Brilski on Dec 28, 2016

Bonnie Ferreria on Jan 14, 2017

These luncheons, large and small, have been greatly appreciated by the families they supported.

### **RE & Adult Faith Formation:** Debbie Gausmann

The Faith Formation ministry did a 5-year review and they have met all criteria on their original plan and are currently working on a new 5-year plan.

- Young Adults: Debbie is working with our local LPA to offer some activity each month for young adults. Each parish will rotate each of the events. Some types of events will be social service, Theology on Tap. St. Kateri will organize a St Paul soup kitchen for their event.
- Adult Faith Formation: The Pillars II study has been changed to Bishop Baron's Pivotal Players. The Pillars has been discontinued.
- The retreat Women of the Bible (Letters and Epistles) was cancelled but hopefully will be rescheduled for May.
- Children's Religious Ed: Monica is doing well. She is looking at some family religious education events to take place quarterly. The first one is due to be in May.

### **YOUTH:**

- Dating and Love Retreat Cancelled due to weather. Reschedule has not been determined.
- Service events:
  - Coat Drive: Very successful. For next year, we will begin in September in order not to conflict with other Advent events.
  - St Vincent Christmas Party: the group took the gifts brought by the teens and the coats to St Vincent. They prepared and served the reception for the party
  - Eggleston Services: A group of teens and adults went to Eggleston to spend time with the Special needs adults on December 22. St Nicholas came with us and passed out Small gifts for the adults.
  - St Paul's Soup Kitchen: on January 14, a group of 16 went down to St Paul's to help feed the Homeless. We brought most of the meal, baked ziti, salad, rolls, green beans, fruit. We prepared the meal, served, ate with the guests, and then cleaned up. Our next date is Saturday, March 25.
- Christian Concerts: Winter Jam on February 23 ---\$10. Peggy was looking into this but did not send an update. Kira will check with her.
- Catholic Heart Workcamp: We have 4 spaces open for both trips.
- Talent Show: March 5. Planning is coming along. Tickets will go on sale February 5. Theme is DECADES
- SYG Dinner and a Movie Night: January 27 at the church, 6-9pm. YLT teens bring the main dishes and the others bring desserts of sweets.
- Confirmation Retreat is scheduled for February 3-5, 2017 at Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center.
- Fundraising:
  - Bingo – parent help is needed. Money can no longer be awarded, but grants need to be written to distribute funds.
  - Carwash

- Yard sale
- Talent show

**Liturgy:** David Stallard

The committee is scheduled to meet Thursday (later this week). Items to be discussed are:

- Reconciliation service for Lent
- Ministries at the masses – scheduling and training
- Will have a report for the next PPC

**Choir:** Lori Yankoski

The choir needs more people. Might try to get people to commit to short time stints (like Easter, Christmas). May start with Junior High Youth to see if they are interested.

**Discussion of reports:**

- Comment on Liturgy report: A suggestion was made to have the hospitality ministers wear a badge to identify them to people needing their help.

**Next PPC meeting: Wednesday, Feb 8, 2017 at 7PM in the Annex**

**Formation will cover pages 16-20**

**Action Items:**

**Think about Mission/Vision planning and who would/should participate.**

Volunteer to lead opening Prayer: David Stallard

Respectfully submitted, Sheila Horan