

Minutes of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
May 10, 2017; 7PM
Annex of the church

Members Present:

ExOfficio Member:

Father Bob Spencer
Lori Yankoski

Parish Council Representatives:

Dick Stocchetti, Claire Clasen, Jim Hines, Sheila Horan, Melissa Madrigal

Committee Members:

Debbie Gausmann: RE & Adult Faith Formation; Larry Kervella: Youth Ministry Representative; Rick Gausmann: House Church Leadership Committee; David Keneally: Parish Social Ministries; Nate Garn: New Evangelization

Guests:

Peter and Mary Egan

Members Absent:

Parish Council Representatives:

Barry Yachem, Frank Grim, Sue Wilkinson, Lance Solaroli

Committee Members:

Dave Stallard (Liturgy), Anne Boeh (Community Life)

Opening Prayer: Larry Kervella

Approval of Minutes: March Minutes approved

Faith Formation: Parish survey

New Business:

• **Review of Parish Picnic:**

Nate reports that all committees have been contacted and things are moving forward. There will be a lot more games for people of all ages.

- The Bishop has submitted his resignation (April 15, 2017). He will remain as Bishop until replaced.
- Food Pantry:
Meats and fresh produce donations have gone down. We will add that monetary donations can be made to the Food Pantry (envelope on the office ledge at the main entrance of the church).
- We are getting good comments on having altar servers. The servers are doing a wonderful job
- Peter and Mary Egan will make a presentation to the parish council in the future.
- The Social Ministries report is attached at the end of the minutes.

Pastors Notes: Guidance on what is needed

• **History:**

- The parish archives and pastor's notes were located and examined. A vision could not be found. Doug Sterrett has a copy of the original charter and covenants.
- Elaine has put together a parish history

- A survey had been done: We walk by faith Diocesan survey (7-8 years old) We can look at that for ideas.
- **Vision:**
 - The vision comes first.
 - It needs to be short, 3-4 lines
 - It should say Where we want to go, what we want to be.
 - Needs to include Jesus Christ
 - The Vision guides the mission.
 - Get input from the parish via a survey.
- **Mission:**
 - What we need to do to fulfill the vision
 - Mission has two parts: general and specific. The general would include what we want to do, the specific would contain more specifics and would include a 5-year plan.
 - May need a second survey to address the mission
- **Impact on all parish members, committees and activities**
 - The vision and mission need to be visible: public, seen and remembered
 - Committees need to keep in mind how they contribute to the vision/mission of the parish
 - The vision/mission/survey information must all be completed before we do any type of building
- **PPC role:**
 - The PPC (parish pastoral council) is the core group to work on this.
 - PPC will use the survey as input to drive the vision
 - Need to be thorough and complete
 - There will be many perspectives and this will be an involved process and so may take time.
 - We will begin with the premise that the people are here because they like the parish.

Discussion and input:

- **Survey:**
 - Jim has developed some benchmark unbiased questions for his work. He will send these to Rick Gausmann. We need questions on the survey that will raise people to a higher level of what the parish needs to be (and not what one thinks the parish “must” have – like kneelers), but more on the level of what do you see St. Kateri’s role in the community (parish community and wider community)
 - We need to see if the needs of our community are being met for different groups in our parish/community.
 - Should include Ecumenical outreach
 - Could rate the programs in our parish (this would perhaps be a later survey)
 - Could use the 4 Pillars of faith (the Creed, the Sacraments, the Moral life, Prayer) as a basis for survey questions.
 - Jesus has given us a vision (gospels). What is our role as a parish to follow Christ? How as a community do we apply our faith. What is the direction for our parish.
- **Method:**
 - First Survey is to guide us in forming our Vision
 - Possible second survey to guide and form the Mission
 - The surveys are to help give us direction and input from the community

- Small Group:
 - Nate Garn, Rich Gausmann, Barry Yachem will work on gathering information on vision (to give ideas as to the kind of questions we need to ask), and put together survey questions that we may use in our parish.
 - For the June PPC meeting, they will have questions for a survey to be used to form our vision statement.
 - Others can be asked to help the small group to act in a listening/advisor capacity. But the PPC is the core group.
- Once we have the survey questions the parish will:
 - Advertise and promote the survey using email, mail, House churches, Facebook.
 - The survey will be made accessible to everyone in advance. This way people can think about their responses and be prepared to take the survey.
 - One or two weekends will be used to take and collect the surveys at mass.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Everyone: Bring your calendars for the year so we can plan for our retreat.**
- **Small Group: Gather more information on vision and survey questions, and put together questions for the survey so we can review them at the June meeting.**
- **Everyone: If you have possible questions, ideas to share with the small group send them to Rick Gausmann, Nate Garn, or Barry Yachem**

Next PPC meeting: Wednesday, June 21 7PM in the Annex

No Faith Formation – focus will be on survey, vision, and retreat.

Volunteer to lead opening Prayer: Sue Wilkinson was volunteered by Dick Stocchetti

Respectfully submitted, Sheila Horan

Here's the Parish Social Ministries input for this period. Dave

Kairos: Thirty prisoners completed the Kairos program at Sussex II State Prison, 20-23-April 17, hearing the Gospel, many for the first time. We had two inside ministers participate and outside ministers were fantastic: We had a \$580.00 contribution from the church; 72 ½ hour prayer sign-ups; and 278 dozen cookies were baked. Outstanding effort from the entire church! A one-day instructional event will be held at the prison on Sat, 20 May to teach the men to participate in small prayer and share groups in their respective cell blocks in the prison when Kairos volunteers are not present (the ultimate goal of Kairos).

Parish Food Pantry: Since the Food Pantry is simply a ministry the Parish supports and not a Parish ministry in future I will submit 1 report a year, in January, as a yearly report. Because this is a new policy I will give you one last interim report, January - April.

The Parish Thrift Shop Food Pantry Served 496 families during this time frame which included 162 Seniors, 954 Adults, 571 Children. All were given meals for one week. You may want to note that because of the disbandment of Share, monetary donations are down which is impacting our ability to provide fresh produce. An agreement we have with the Food Bank of the Virginia Peninsula keeps us in fresh meats at a very reduced cost, so that has not been affected. We still have our Fresh Meat and Produce Program and donations can be made by writing a check to the Parish Thrift Shop, with Food Pantry written in the memo line. All donations will be sent receipts for tax purposes. Donations can be given to Claudia in the Office, put in an envelope marked Food Pantry and put in the collection, or mailed to the Parish Thrift Shop at PO Box 2019, Poquoson VA 23662.

Haiti Twinning: The entire committee has been planning and preparing for our annual Haiti Appreciation Dinner which will be on Friday, May 19. Father DuPortal, pastor at St Michel, our twin parish in Boucan Carre, Haiti will highlight our guest list. Fr DuPortal will also speak at each Mass on May 20-21. Following a special Haitian dinner, the program will include pictures from our most recent Haiti visits and dedication of the new rectory and elementary school classrooms. These two beautiful buildings were funded by St Anselm Parish, St Louis. Father Michael Brunner, St Anselm Pastor, will also share the evening. This weekend provides an opportunity for all parishioners, student sponsors, and Haiti 5K race supporters to better understand the impact their collective effort has made on the St Michel schools for the past 17 years.

We especially would like to have parish pastoral council members at the Haiti dinner. Please sign up or the parking lot door or contact Judy Townsend at judy.townsend@verizon.net if planning to attend.