

Minutes of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
April 11, 2018
Annex of the church

Members Present:

ExOfficio Member:

Father Bob Spencer
Lori Yankoski

Parish Council Representatives:

Dick Stocchetti, Sheila Horan, Barry Yachem, Melissa Madrigal, Frank Grim, Sue Wilkinson,
Claire Clasen

Committee Members:

Debbie Gausmann: RE & Adult Faith Formation; Rick Gausmann: House Church Leadership
Committee; Nate Garn: New Evangelization

Members Absent:

Parish Council Representatives:

Jim Hines, Lance Solaroli

Committee Members:

Larry Kervella: Youth Ministry Representative, Dave Stallard: Liturgy Committee; David
Keneally: Parish Social Ministries; Anne Boeh: Community Life

Opening Prayer and reflection: Sue Wilkinson

Old Business:

Mission statement

The mission statement was discussed, and consensus was reached. Our mission statement is:

Mission Statement: Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Roman Catholic Church

In following Jesus Christ who is our source and summit, the mission of the St. Kateri Tekakwitha community is to worship, learn and serve through:

- Full, active and conscious participation in the Mass which empowers our ministry and activity
- Active and engaging formation programs for all ages
- Recognizing and serving Christ in individuals according to their needs
- Actively pursuing service opportunities to expand our reach and impact and through promoting a welcoming community that meets the needs of a dynamic people of God.

Elections

Father expressed some observations he has seen about selecting parish council members. It is important to gather those together who are interested in serving to go over the "Called to Serve" document so that they will understand what being on the parish council is about. It is also important that the parish be able to "see" the candidates and so a Bio with a picture should be put up in the church for people to read before having the election. We need to have people who are familiar with the parish and can look at the church as a whole and not focus on one particular item.

For the parish council elections:

- The Parish Council positions will be advertised in the church bulletin and announced from the ambo for two weekends (April 21/22 and April 28/29).

- Interested parishioners should submit their names to Lori by May 6.
 - On May 10 (7PM) Father (and some current council members) will meet with those who submitted their names and will go over the “Called to Serve” document. Those wanting to serve on the council will need to submit a short Bio at this meeting and have their photo taken to post in the church.
 - Potential Parish Council Member Bios and pictures will be posted for three weeks (May 19 through June 3).
 - The election will take place at the June 2/3 Masses
- The current Council members who will be rotated off are:
Dick Stocchetti, Sue Wilkinson, and Jim Hines

New Business:

Minutes from the November meeting were approved.

Committee Reports:

New Evangelization: Nate Garn:

Old Business included a review of the Fish Fry that was deemed a success.

The Parish Picnic Planning meeting met once and established that most things will remain the same as last year with the addition of a sno-cone machine and asking the Knights to man the hotdog and condiments area. We will also have the popcorn machine outside to add to the festive atmosphere. We will attempt to have the DJ be a little more audience interactive and hope to have more adult games arranged.

The Picnic Planning Committee will meet again on April 19th.

New Business:

Parish Health Awareness Program has begun. Millie Gilliam has gathered a knowledgeable team and has met a few times already to brainstorm ideas for a late August Health Fair or workshop. Several innovative ideas were mentioned, and it looks very promising.

Financial Fitness – Debbie is looking into the feasibility and costs of utilizing the Dave Ramsey Program.

Vacation Bible School - Spoke on how to have VBS more intergenerational and create a broader adult appeal, even to inviting outside of St. Kateri

Social Activities:

We listed some current social events and talked of other possibilities including another Fish Fry, attending sporting events, having intergenerational events, couple’s nights and other ideas.

There has also been some interest shown to joining a bowling league. That is in initial stages of research.

Ministry Fair: We discussed how to draw more participation at the annual Ministry Fair. It was suggested that we hold it near the end of February. There is not a lot going on at the church that time of year and it would be a good leadup to Lent.

It was also suggested that we need to find a photographer who can be available for parish events and post to relevant social media sites.

Men’s Group: The Men’s group has been well attended with the Sacraments course being led by Terry Johnson. We are currently looking into a new program for next year.

House Church Leadership Committee: Rick Gausmann

- **Lighting in the parking lot:** One house church indicated that there is a problem with lighting in the church parking lot due to not enough illumination.

Fr. Bob has formed a Facilities Committee to look at the physical structure and all components/equipment in the church – the building and surrounding area. They are identifying and prioritizing items for repair, periodic maintenance and upgrades. Items identified that have been concerns for the HCLC are parking lot and side entryway lighting, a canopy at the side entrance, security cameras/buzzer system to upgrade security and access, and audio/visual upgrades.

- **Direction of the House Church**

The whole concept of House Church as we define it here at St. Kateri needs to be refocused, revitalized, redirected, and/or renamed. We have talked about this every year without coming up with a plan of action. Currently, we have 14 House Churches combined into 10 geographical areas (used to be 21). Of those 14, two are meeting monthly, two are meeting periodically, and five (possibly six) are inactive. As the need for and the function of House Church has changed over the last 30 years, we need to be able to meet the needs of new members as well as preserving the traditions of older members. Remember, besides formation and socialization, we are the email information conduit for the Parish, and in charge of soup suppers for Lent. We will solicit input from house church members and discuss inputs at the next house church leadership meeting on May 8. We will include Mark Hoggard in our discussion.

- **Knights of Columbus Round Table**

The Round Table is currently working on the following projects:

- Improving visibility of the St. Kateri entryway sign by removing brush and offending trees along Big Bethel.
- Highlighting the small entryway island with high-visibility posts and solar lights.
- Putting in a handicap ramp at the Annex.
- Hosting an Oktoberfest on the 5th of October to include German food, music and dancing.

The Round Table has the required numbers, and Fr. Bob has approved, the formation of a St. Kateri Knights of Columbus Council. We are still in the process of identifying existing and potential members, and determining the level of commitment before we take the next step. If all goes well, we are planning on standing up a council in January 2019. It was recommended that the Round Table Coordinator (or his representative) be invited to sit in on the Parish Council as a contributing committee member.

Social Ministries: Dave Keneally:

HAITI TWINNING MINISTRY: Submitted by Virginia Cotter

Fundraising Summary:

Run with the Son for Haiti 5K:

Gross:	\$20,184.00
Expenses:	(\$2,998.00)
Net:	\$17,186.00

2017 Student Sponsorship Program: \$410.00

2018 Student Sponsorship Program: \$34,278.29 (\$720 outstanding)

Transferred to HOP Sacred Heart, Knoxville, TN: \$50,000.00

Number of students sponsored: 419

(262 from student sponsorship program, 170 from 5K)

Upcoming Events:

Haiti Solidarity Dinner -Sunday, June 3, 2018, 5:30 p.m.

Authentic Haitian dinner. No charge.

Speakers from Office of Social Ministry and Haiti Diocesan
Commission

We thank you for your support. Men anpil chay pa lou. (*Many hands make light load.*)

PRISON MINISTRY:

Kairos Prison ministry will send one inside minister to the spring Weekend at Sussex II State Prison on April 26-29. They will need 100 dozen cookies and prayers. Drop off date for the cookies is April 24 (Tuesday) from 5-7PM at the church. Prayer sign up and cookie recipes will be available by the side door. The youth will make placemats for the men.

HOMELESS MINISTRY: No Report

Debbie Gausmann reported:

St. Kateri still helps support the St. Paul's soup kitchen. We are now opening it up to any in the parish who would like to help. Millie Gilliam will lead this ministry. The young adults will be serving lunch at St. Paul's April 14. We will be serving 5-6 times per year.

Parish Community Life: Anne Boeh:

No Report

Debbie Gausmann offered the following update:

The Community Life ministry supported the Lent Soup suppers and had everything set and ready to go. They are also setting up the Sunday morning coffee and snacks for Sunday Fellowship after the Masses and they are doing a fantastic job! They have also handled reception after funerals when needed. Community life will also be helping with the reception for the confirmation of our youth on April 29. We greatly appreciate the help and support of the Community Life members.

RE & Adult Faith Formation: Debbie Gausmann

Mark Hoggard applied for the Religious Education position that is being vacated by Monica (May 6). He has been hired to take over the Adult Faith Formation. Debbie Gausmann will shift to children and teen religious education starting May 1.

Youth: The youth and teens continue to be very busy. The Easter egg hunt on Palm Sunday went over well and had about 1000 eggs. At the Easter Vigil the members of the Rosa family received one or more of sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. The retreat for the confirmation candidates went well.

Upcoming Events:

- First Communion for our children: April 21/22
- Confirmation for our teens: April 29 (24 candidates)
- Work Camps: There will be 4 mission trips this year. One to St. Croix for the young adults, two Catholic Heart camps for High School, and the Just 5 Days for the middle school youth. They have all been busy with fundraising to pay for the trips. The upcoming/continuing funding opportunities are the yard sale, and the scripts sales.
- Vacation Bible School is currently being planned (intergenerational)
- The children will be making placemats to send to the prison through the Kairos ministry.
- The young adults will be serving at the St. Paul's soup kitchen April 14.

Liturgy: David Stallard

Liturgy set up practice for Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil so that all would flow well and arranged for “Silence” Signs and video/audio for the alcove to handle overflow.

The Pentecost Sunday “Mass on the Grass” will be discussed at the next meeting (April 24)

Pastors Notes:

Father Bob is very busy with first communion and confirmation.

Next PPC meeting: Wednesday May 9, 2018

Volunteer to lead opening Prayer: Claire Clasen

Respectfully submitted, Sheila Horan