

Minutes of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
November 8, 2017
Annex of the church

Members Present:

ExOfficio Member:

Father Bob Spencer

Parish Council Representatives:

Dick Stocchetti, Claire Clasen, Jim Hines, Sheila Horan, Barry Yachem, Melissa Madrigal,
Frank Grim, Lance Solaroli

Committee Members:

Debbie Gausmann: RE & Adult Faith Formation; Dave Stallard: Liturgy Committee; Rick
Gausmann: House Church Leadership Committee; David Keneally: Parish Social Ministries;
Nate Garn: New Evangelization

Members Absent:

Lori Yankoski

Parish Council Representatives:

Sue Wilkinson

Committee Members:

Larry Kervella: Youth Ministry; Anne Boeh: Community Life

Opening Prayer and reflection: Jim Hines: Lord's prayer

Old Business: Past minutes:

An addition was made to the June minutes to clarify a change from the May minutes. The June and September minutes were approved and will be posted to the web site.

New Business: Survey results, mission statement review

A question of posting the survey to the St. Kateri website was brought up. Discussion ensued concerning the length of the report. It was decided that the survey results will be posted on the St. Kateri website and that a copy will be posted on a bulletin board for people to look through.

The mission statement that was formulated at the retreat was posted and the council went over it. Discussion ensued. We arrived at the following statement:

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

- Full, active and conscious participation in 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.

The statement was then reviewed for grammar and consistency. The suggested statement with updates is:

** Notes: A mission statement should be well-written to effectively state the organization's identity and why they exist.

Mission Statement

St. Kateri is a Roman Catholic community united by faith in God, nourished by Jesus Christ, who is our source and summit, through both the Word and the Eucharist and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We strive to meet the spiritual and physical needs of our parish family and community through prayer, faith formation, evangelization, stewardship, fellowship, and social justice.

Description for Mission Statement

As parishioners of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic Church in the Diocese of Richmond, Virginia, we worship, learn, and serve through:

- Full, active, and conscious participation in 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.

Committee Reports:

New Evangelization: Nate Garn

We reviewed some of the New Evangelization initiatives from the previous year including the Parish Picnic, the St. Kateri Pride sales of magnets and t-shirts and the Parish Directory. We reviewed some of the Young Adult activities in the area such as

- 1) Theology on Tap
- 2) 5K Run
- 3) Game night at St. Jerome's

New Business included:

- 1) Suggestion to conduct a Health Fair, maybe 3 or 4 times a year as part of a general Parish Health Awareness program that would include the Daniel Plan healthy eating and lifestyle classes, regular Blood Pressure checks, people assisting with aging questions, exercise, various therapy suggestions etc. from volunteers in the parish or by bringing in professionals if needed. Could also include Financial fitness (Dave Ramsey)
- 2) Another suggestion included hosting a quarterly social event to foster stronger bonds within the community, attract "lost" Catholics or those who have not been coming to church. It would also be a way to invite and evangelize to family, friends and neighbors within our individual sphere of influence. Events could include:
Dinners, Dances, Movie nights, Sports outings, Theatre trips, Camp Fires, Talent Show and even forming a sports team, such as a bowling team or a Volleyball team to play against other churches in the area

Diocesan Training Session:

The Diocese held its annual New Evangelization training seminars last month. Several members of the team attended the training held at Immaculate Conception. The training revolved around small faith communities and questions regarding how we are attracting and evangelizing to the diverse types of families and individuals in our parish. What do we have that attracts them? How do we evangelize to them? How do we keep them interested? Do we meet their expectations and needs? Do we make them feel welcome?

The Men's Prayer Group

The Men's group started off strong this year with a course on the Sacraments taught by Terry Johnson. It was a popular first session and we have 17 signed up for the next meeting so far, on Saturday November 11th.

House Church Leadership Committee: Rick Gausmann

The house churches are encouraging that members donate turkeys to the food pantry for Thanksgiving.

The Knights of Columbus are holding monthly round table meetings at the parish. Numbers are increasing. The Knights are focusing on social activities and service to the parish (they got rid of the old chairs and set up the new ones, cleaned and stained the annex porch).

Social Ministries: Dave Keneally

HAITI TWINNING MINISTRY: Will have tables set up to get sponsors for the children for two weekends in November and two weekends in January.

FOOD PANTRY:

PRISON MINISTRY: Kairos just completed their prison weekend (Summary in Nov 4/5 bulletin). St. Kateri donated \$500, the junior youth group made placemats, 73 one-half hour prayer sign-ups, and 193 doz. cookies were donated. The weekend was wonderful. Graduation will take place in April.

HOMELESS MINISTRY:

ECOLOGY MINISTRY:

Parish Community Life: Anne Boeh: No report

RE & Adult Faith Formation: Debbie Gausmann

Adult: Adult faith formation is currently studying the Gospel of Mark – will finish that Nov 13. The new study will be Forgiven and will start Nov 20 and go through Advent (4 sessions). The Women's bible study will wrap up John this year and meets two Wednesdays/month. The Mom's group continues to meet on Fridays and is doing well.

Young Adult: The young adult ministry is picking up. Theology on Tap meets at Jose Tequilas. Each parish sponsors an activity for the young adults. So far, they have planned: St Paul's soup kitchen, Vino and Vespers and a 5K Yorktown race.

College Students: The College student ministry is planning a Catholic heart workcamp to St. Croix to help with hurricane recovery.

Youth: Trunk or treat had to be cancelled due to rain (a rain date will be set for future years). Service Saturday had a good turn-out of youth. The youth did a wonderful job and 21 cubic yards of mulch were added to the grounds. The middle school students are preparing for the Just 5 Days summer camp; and there will be two Catholic heart workcamps for the High School students.

Liturgy: David Stallard

- David Young will be the Mass Coordinator for the 11AM mass. Barry Yachem will serve as his assistant. David Stallard will take over scheduling of the Eucharistic ministers
- RCIA: Terry Johnson briefed the liturgy committee as to what is happening in the parish for this program. Fr. Bob, Terry and Debbie will meet to make any updates to the program as necessary.
- Virginia Cotter briefed that the set up for the church for Advent and Christmas is arranged. There will be no baptisms during Advent or Lent.
- Two people will be used to light the advent candles and they should be identified 30 minutes before the beginning of Mass, so they can practice.
- Family room announcements will be provided periodically, not weekly
- Fr. Bob would like to have the people in the altar procession identified before Mass – not at the time of the collection. Mass Coordinators are to make sure that happens.

Discussion of reports:

There was discussion of the liturgy committee report. Fr. Bob elaborated on the altar procession and indicated that there is currently some confusion about what people are doing and the people in the procession need understand what they are to do, and that should take place before the Mass – not during it.

There was then some discussion about the need for a hand rail at the altar. Dave Stallard will look into adding a hand rail to the altar.

Pastors Notes:

Father is wondering if we are preparing kids for college/work

Father would like to get the handicapped members involved in ministry

Next PPC meeting: Wednesday, January 10, 2018 in the annex.

Formation ?**Topics for the meeting:**

Mission

Elections

Volunteer to lead opening Prayer: Sue Wilkinson

Respectfully submitted, Sheila Horan