

Minutes of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
November 13, 2019 7PM
Annex of the church

Members:

ExOfficio Member:

Father Bob Spencer
Lori Yankoski

Parish Council Representatives:

Kathy Stocchetti, Rick Sowell, Nate Garn, Barry Yachem, Melissa Madrigal, Lance Solaroli,
Mary Egan, Rick Gausmann, Lindsay Lockett

Committee Members:

Paul Gottschlich: New Evangelization; Paul Gottschlich: Community; Debbie Gausmann:
Formation; Larry Kervella: Youth Ministry Representative; Rick Sowell: Knights of Columbus;
Lance Solaroli and Lori Yankoski: Administration/Facilities; Dave Stallard: Worship

Absent:

Parish Council Representatives:

Darlene Heinz, Andrea Lemieux

Committee Members:

David Keneally: Social Justice

Call to Order

Opening Prayer: Rick Gausmann

Faith Formation: Rebuilt Pages 241-262 – was completed during retreat

Approval of Minutes for October – October minutes approved as written

Old Business:

- Discuss voting at-large Election procedure and approve it: Discussion ensued and additions were suggested to the document: Add in to send out the Called to Serve document to inform nominees of what being on the council is about; add meeting with nominees by parish council members to answer questions and clarify role of council members. Capitalize Mass and Pastor in the document. In items 5 and 6 about the election message use from and not “to from”.
- Discussion/ideas concerning: Items here discussed in the Evangelization report.
 - Health Fair
 - Funeral Planning support
- Parish Council bulletin board/website: Most of the needed pictures are in, Rick will take some after the PPC meeting. Should have all information needed in time to put up the bulletin board by Thanksgiving. The website is about ready as well, but Rick needs to cut down the narratives to conserve space. He will send out a request to trim them down soon.
- Harmony retirement community: No progress made

Committee Reports:

We will be including all of the committee reports with the agenda. Members will need to read the agenda and the reports and prepare comments/questions for the next meeting. To do this the reports need to be submitted to the secretary by Thursday noon (the week before the Parish Council Meeting meeting). All of the reports will then be included in the agenda and sent out to all members Thursday evening before the Parish Council Meeting. The secretary will send out a reminder to submit reports two weeks before the meeting.

New Evangelization: Nate Garn

- **Health Fair:** We have a list of past participants and their emails. Currently have a few interested in working a booth but still must enlist a leader/organizer for the event. Waiting to hear back from a couple of people.
- **Funeral Planning:** George Hamann the Partner and Managing Director of Clayton Rollins Funeral Home was contacted. He was told generally what we were looking to do, and he was more than happy to come speak to our parishioners. He will not make it a commercial for his funeral home, but speak as a professional, caring person telling friends what to expect and what they need to consider. He said he would be willing to do this over different days or times if we needed him to. We will be in touch after we discuss more of what we want to do and when. Most aspects of a funeral would be covered, but we can also bring in others if desired. It was also noted by a committee member that the Diocese has a dedicated Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services link.
 - Discussion ensued following this report. We want to move ahead on this. It appears anything short of a workshop would not be enough time
 - It was proposed to have an introduction to funeral planning during one of the Lenten Soup suppers. Then have a Saturday workshop follow-up sometime after that.
 - The information given would need to include information on planning a catholic funeral.
 - Nate will work on setting up dates

Community: Paul Gottschlich

- **COMMUNITY LIFE SERVICE (Maureen Gottschlich): Nothing to report!**
- **GREEN THUMB (Darrell Cofsky):** No report.
- **Prayer Chain Report (Sheila Horan):** Nothing to report.
- **HOUSE CHURCHES (Sheila Horan)**

For House Church, we have some input on the Lenten Soup Suppers:

Here are the dates related to Lent for 2020.

Wednesdays:

February 26	Ash Wednesday – no soup supper
March 4	Woodlake Crossing/Coventry (Bob Walsh)
March 11	Grafton (Nate Garn)
March 18	Poquoson East (Dave Stallard)
March 25	TBD – Healing service – Possibly Poquoson North (Dave Kenneally)
April 1	Valmoore/Westover (Angela Render) - Reconciliation

Need to work on:

Community Life will be contacted to coordinate tasks for the soup suppers. Dave Kenneally will be contacted concerning the March 25 soup supper.

Social Justice: Dave Keneally

- **PORT**

St. Kateri will support PORT on the night/morning of Nov 30/Dec 1 and the morning of Dec. 13. A web site is now available for sign ups and bulletin announcements are planned for Nov 10/11, Nov 17/18, and Nov 24/25. Sts. Constantin and Helen Church has requested we support dinner and overnight on Dec. 12. This is included in the sign-up site. I feel that I cannot commit to this until most of the needed volunteer slots are filled. It was very difficult to get volunteers for the morning of Dec 13 - hope and pray for the best for dinner. Sign up links are: For Temple Baptist Church, click this link: <https://signup.com/go/amrECcX>
For Saints Helen and Constantin Church, click this link: <https://signup.com/go/mntwEkr>

I am trying to get parishioners to supply food because 2 dinners and breakfasts will far exceed the budget I have been given. I am adjusting the quantities of food to be donated for the different signups to make each one about \$10. Once this is done (probably this weekend), I will email

everyone I know for the 5:30 Mass ministries, previous PORT volunteers, and the Haiti Committee. If someone would email those supporting the Mass ministries at the 8:30 and 11:00 am Masses, I would gladly supply the email text. If I don't get sufficient food sign ups, I will purchase the required food.

My concern is that we will not have all volunteer slots filled, especially the 2 first overnight shifts (9pm-1am) and the two second overnight shifts (1am-5am). Last winter, when helping St. Vincent de Paul Church, there was a no-show so the PORT coordinator for St. Vincent's had to spend the night.

- **KAIROS**

St Kateri had two inside ministers attend Kairos 17 at Sussex II State Prison, 24-27 Oct 2019. The church donated \$700.00 and outside ministers baked 279 dozen cookies, committed to 82 one-half hour prayer sign-ups, and numerous place mats from the children at various religious ed classes. Thirty-five inmates graduated from the four-day program. (Note: We've now had 17 four-day Kairos events at Sussex II; that's 680 inmates that had the opportunity to receive the gospel of Jesus Christ). A big thanks to all for your continued support of the Kairos Prison Ministry.

Formation: Debbie Gausmann

Children: There is a lot happening!

- Keep adding more children. We now have 110 – 115 children and space is still an issue
- Trunk or Treat: Had 100+ people and was moved inside due to weather. The Knights were a big help and prepared 150 hot dogs.
- Saints Festival: The middle school youth did an outstanding job putting on the festival. They also took care of the set-up and tear-down. They had about 100 students attend.
- Planning:
 - St Nick festival will be Dec 8
 - New Year's Eve program (New Year's Eve Hoedown) will be New Year's Eve from 5 to 9PM. This is an intergenerational event.
- The Epiphany play will be changed to a children's play about the childhood of Jesus.

Adult:

- Adult Faith Formation is doing well and will be wrapping up Vatican II. A new study on Exodus will begin in January.
- RCIA: 3 were received in September and the 2 in the inquiry class have moved on to a different parish.
- Confirmation: Possible confirmation date is March 18 at St. Bedes.

Youth: Larry Kervella

- Had a middle school youth rally
- Regional event: This was held at St. Jerome's. St. Kateri sent the most youth to this than any other parish.
- St Vincent service project: Students are set to wrap presents and will help with the party on Dec 21st.
- Confirmation retreat: Planning is done, and they are now working on preparing for the retreat.

Knights of Columbus: Rick Sowell

- Knights are donating 15 turkeys to the Food Pantry
- Christmas card sale was the best ever this year. They sold most of the cards and those left were taken to be sold at a local business.
- Knights will be helping to provide coats for kids
- Knights are looking at sponsoring a scholarship competition for college bound students
- Rick Sowell needs sponsors for the Polar Plunge. Funds go to support the special Olympics.
- Knights are considering having a free throw competition and are looking into helping with this year's talent show

Administration/Facilities: Lance Solaroli or Lori Yankoski

- The office has put Windows 10 on all their computers (previously had Windows 7)
- Online giving now has some options: to donate to roof repair, and for Haiti sponsorship
- Online giving is doing well. Financially the parish is keeping up with expenses.
- Over this past year, we have added 100 people (including children) to the parish
- The office is having issues with the copier – it is in the process of being fixed.
- The Request for Proposal for the roof is still in process.
- The fire department will visit the church to review current regulations and indicate where the fire lane needs to be.

Worship: David Stallard

- Beginning with the first Sunday in Advent , the parking lot door will be closed for entry 5 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time for Mass. A sign will be posted outside the door indicating the door is closed and entry is to be through the main entrance. The group finalized the announcement to be presented to the congregation. A handout will be given out as people leave the church over the next two weekends to inform people of the change. There will also be an ambo announcement.
- Darlene requested that arrangements be made to set up the manger after the 11 o'clock Mass November 24th . Help is needed to set-up the pieces.
- The Advent theme is "Love, The Guest, is on the way. Magnets are here and will be handed out, the weekend of November 30/December 1.
- Father emphasized having more youth participate at all Masses, crucifers, servers, etc.

New Business:

- **Retreat: Debbie Gausmann**
 - The retreat was great, but not well attended.
 - Mark taught from the Rebuilt book and completed the council's study of this book.
 - Mark then discussed the importance of knowing what gifts and strengths you have in the parish. One can find these using Living Your Strengths.
 - What do we do now, where do we go with what we've learned from Rebuilt? It was decided to focus on Growing and Calling.
 - Growing:
 - Increase the number of parishioners
 - Educate our people
 - Increase giving (general collections and for facility repair)
 - Calling:
 - Have a reverse ministries Fair
 - Identify gifts and talents of our people and pair them up with the ministries that need those gifts and talents

- To identify people's gifts and talents could have several workshops on Living Your Strengths – reach out to the entire parish
- Parish Council needs to lead the way and find our gifts and talents. This can be done with a workshop early next year (January). Then have another for other parish leaders and then continue to include all others.
- By Pentecost we could start pairing people with ministries that would use the individual's gifts and talents. Pentecost would then be a celebration of our gifts.
- The council needs to promote helping the parishioners to see their gifts
 - Start with the parish leadership: parish council, the finance council and mass coordinators, then other leaders, and then through encouragement, and discussion have the rest of the parish take the workshops.
 - We will start with the Parish Council. We will have a workshop in January on Living Your Strengths. The book is \$15, and you take the test before the workshop and bring the results with you to the workshop.
- May want to evaluate the ministries to reflect the gifts and strengths that match that ministry.

Pastors Remarks:

- Father was invited to attend a lunch with the Williamsburg Deanery though we are a part of Deanery 4 (Our Lady of Mount Carmel)
- Bill Keratin is the liaison to the diocese bicentennial (2020). He will pass on information to the parish through the bulletin.
- Parking still presents safety issues. Arrows will be painted to indicate proper direction flow. There is still plenty of parking behind the church.
- Fire tankers for emergencies need to be able to reach all parts of the church.
- Ann Masters passed away on Monday 11/11. Her funeral will be Thursday 11/14 at R. Hayden Smith in Hampton.

Action Items:

- **Nate: Work on dates for funeral planning information session and workshop**
- **Barry: Update the election document**
- **Debbie: Arrange the Living Your Strengths workshop.**
- **PPC members: Look up your Living Your Strengths information if you have it.**

Closing Prayer – Our Father

Volunteer to lead opening Prayer: Kathy Stocchetti

Adjournment

Next PPC meeting: December 11, 2019