

Blessed Trinity Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes for January 3, 2022

Date	January 3, 2022
Time	7:00 – 8:42 p.m.
Location	Virtual Meeting via Zoom
Attendance	<p>Pastoral Team: Fr Joe Rossi, Fr. Peter Quinn</p> <p>PPC Members: Mihran Keoseian (chair), Carole Prest (co-chair), Wes Baker, Rita Biagioni, Shaun Driscoll, Tom Emberley, Peter Fidrych, Lori Hauptert, Rachel Hepp, Karen McNamara, Joyce O’Donnell, Bob O’Neill</p> <p>Ex Officio Members: Sue Gormley, Deacon Bill Dwyer</p> <p>PPC Members and Ex-Officio Member Regrets: Debbie Rhodes</p> <p>Guests: Chris Bank (Stewardship Council), Tom Fitzpatrick (Archdiocese Church Liaison)</p>
Facilitator	Mihran Keosian
Recording of Meeting Minutes	Rachel Hepp <i>Next Recorder will be Karen McNamara, Feb. 7—St. Anne Unless PPC uses ZOOM</i>
Welcome & Opening Remarks	Mihran called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and welcomed everyone.
Opening Prayer	Fr. Joe offered a reflection by Judith Lechman.
Here & Now Roundtable	All members shared news and happenings of personal and family matters.
Reading of Meeting Minutes	The November meeting minutes were previously approved via email and there were no further comments.

<p>Synod on Synodality</p>	<p>Tom Fitzpatrick was present to discuss the Synod on Synodality, a worldwide effort initiated by the Pope last year. The goal is to improve communication in the church, listen to the Holy Spirit and the word of God, and improve the overall experience of the church, evangelize, and build up the church. Each parish has been asked to develop an impactful statement on issues they see. Responses will be coordinated into a single response from the Archdiocese of Boston. Two documents were provided to the PPC prior to the meeting – a summary and questions to consider for the response. Feedback is due to the Archdiocese by March 31, 2022. Mihran inquired whether there were specific factors that prompted this task and Tom was not sure. Karen mentioned a similar effort was undertaken in the '70s and mentioned that she is enthusiastic about this initiative. Mihran volunteered to collect comments from PPC members.</p>
<p>Issues to be Discussed from PPC Members</p>	<p>Bob O'Neill and Karen McNamara were asked if there were any updates on Blessed Trinity pursuing the goal of looking for a youth minister. They reported they will look to see what other churches have done. As of the January 3 PPC meeting, they have not had an opportunity to work on this yet but will connect with Mary Collins and Jim Flanagan.</p> <p>Masks (Joyce O'Donnell): Joyce mentioned that some parishioners have asked how to address issues of mask compliance. Bob mentioned that he reminds people at the door when they arrive at church. Fr. Peter said visual aids could be purchased and hung around the church, so people are aware of proper mask wearing requirements. Shaun suggested that cantors could include a reminder regarding the mask requirement. Lori suggested a reminder from the pulpit would be beneficial. Rita agreed that the message may be better served coming from the cantor. Peter volunteered to discuss this messaging with Kelly.</p>

<p>Stewardship & Other Updates</p>	<p>Mihran read an update from Debbie Rhodes (who was unable to attend the meeting). The parish is in the process of updating the 2 parish databases. Chris mentioned that an Easter prayer challenge is being planned; more information to follow. On behalf of Debbie, Mihran informed the PPC members about an upcoming Stewardship conference in Wichita, KS scheduled for March 2022. Debbie is looking for 1-2 parishioners to attend. Interested PPC members can contact Mihran for more information. Tom, Rita, and Sue have attended in the past, and Sue commented that the speakers are from parishes where stewardship is really working. Shaun indicated that he is interested in attending. Chris mentioned that some of the parish ministries are still meeting virtually. Mihran asked if the stewardship tallies were completed, and Chris reported that they are still pending.</p>
<p>Gestures of Gratitude</p>	<p>Fr. Peter initiated a discussion of gestures of gratitude with respect to weddings within the parish. PPC members received a price comparison among area parishes to review. Fr. Peter explained that church offerings for funerals and weddings are returned to parishioners. The group was asked what should be done for non parishioners. Rachel inquired how many weddings were held in the parish each year and how many involved parishioners versus non parishioners. Fr. Peter reported that there were approximately 8 weddings per year, 3 of which were for non parishioners. Rita suggested that the cost for non parishioners could be increased to be competitive with other area parishes. PPC members were asked to email suggestions to Mihran, and the information will be gathered and included with the packet for the next scheduled PPC meeting.</p>

Other Matters of Consideration	Fr. Joe mentioned seeing a young family after 4:00 p.m. mass and the family mentioned that things were going well physically, but not mentally. Fr. Joe mentioned that he has been amazed at the level of support from parishioners despite what we're all going through at this time. Fr. Peter mentioned that the tornado relief effort has raised close to \$10,000.
Final Comments / Discussion	<p>Shaun inquired about establishing some type of recognition for a family or parishioner of the month. PPC members discussed how parishioners could be recognized without it being competitive. Karen suggested having ministries be introduced during mass with representatives present. Fr. Peter commented that he prefers not to single anyone out for work that they have been called to do by the Lord.</p> <p>Peter asked what the next steps were for the parish response / task for the Synod on Synodality. Fr. Joe indicated that he is hesitant to ask anyone to assume this task at this point since he is not sure what is being asked. Fr. Joe also commented that it would be a challenge to gather focus groups at this time. Fr. Peter indicated that he is not confident regarding any action on the archdiocesan level and feels it is more important for the parish to focus on what is needed at the parish level. Tom Emberley suggested that PPC members review the documents and identify 1-2 questions to formulate a response and/or decide which ministries should be involved or which questions the parish can address. Mihran will follow up with Debbie to forward the documents along to all ministries.</p>
Closing Prayer	The closing prayer was led by Fr. Joe.
Next Meeting	Monday February 7, 2022