

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

October 11, 2021

ATTENDED BY: Ben Cutter, Rich DiMarco, Kim Fluett, Sue Gangemi, Mike Goonan, Karl Hamann, Megan Harold, Noah Lucia, Ann Smith, Mary Beth Sullivan, Margie Benza, Maureen O'Connor, Rose Volker and Martha Jodoin.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. Margie Benza led the opening prayer.
2. Mike Goonan made a motion to accept the PPC minutes from September 13, 2021. Seconded by Ann Smith. The minutes were accepted.
3. Sue welcomed everyone. There is an open position on the Parish Pastoral Council. It is unclear whether an alternate was chosen in the spring. Margie will check with Fr. Mike. The diocese recommends 7 to 15 members at large, we currently have 8 members. We will table this item to November 9. No one volunteered to become the vice-chair. Names were drawn from all eligible Parish Pastoral Council Members. Rich DiMarco was selected as the new co-chair. Karl Hamann will be the alternate, followed by Megan Harold and Ben Cutter as needed.
4. **COVID Update** – Local hospitals are full. St. Catherine's and Transfiguration have a mask mandate when attending mass. St. Louis currently does not have a mask mandate for masses.
5. **Cluster Committee Update** – Things are going well. Fr. Rob has done a video that is now on our parishes' websites. St. Catherine's choir members have attended choir practice with our choir. It was good to get to know some of the people we have been "singing with" through the vocal mixes. It was decided to share our council minutes with the choir of St. Catherine's council. At some point there may be a benefit to having one council but not right away. We had a joint fund-raising event for Margaret Home which went very well. It was suggested that we have a fundraising calendar to make sure we are not over asking. Staff will be discussing the possibility of having a Stewardship weekend. Item to consider for the future is if we should have a shared bulletin or directory. We are hoping to have a retreat of St. Catherine's council and our council possibly in March.
6. **Open Forum** – No parishioners were present to address the council. It was suggested that we should include an invitation to attend the council meeting in the weekly email and pulpit reminders. Copies of the parish council minutes and agenda are available on the parish website.
7. **Cluster Reports** –
 - a. **FAITH FORMATION** – Kim presented Vicky Wejko update – We have had our parent meetings for both Faith Formation and First Reconciliation. We will have around 15 First Reconciliation students and 30 Faith Formation students for grades 1-5. The first student sessions for formation will happen on October 24th. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Pre-K) has 7 students signed up already and will begin in November. Vicky and Karen from St. Catherine's have a joint program in the works for both November and for families. They are also working together to do the at-home lesson videos for formation families. There will be a Taco Gathering at St. Catherine's. YouTube numbers for September 2021 as of Sept. 29 are Overall – 538 subscribers, views in last 28 days – 884, Unique viewers in last 28 days (Estimated # of devices that watched content) – 406, Watch time hours – 318.1. Live stream views for masses: Sept. 5 – 171, Sept. 12 – 173,

Sept. 19 – 154 and Sept. 26 – 135. Virtual Children’s Liturgy: Sept. 12 – 13, Sept. 19 – 15 and Sept. 26 – 7. From Anne Gallagher – Our fall programs are off to a great start! Some highlights: We’ve had great attendance at the first middle school youth group night and good response from families about our new hybrid model. Confirmation prep is thriving thanks to the 9 adult and 30 teen peer leaders who are shepherding our 70 candidates as they prepare. It feels great to return home to the youth room on Tuesday nights for senior high – relaxed and comfortable. Adult formation: we’ve got Joe Kelly on Wednesdays in October and Bob Kennedy on Wednesdays in November. Meg Kastner added: A Women’s Bible Study has begun an 8-week study series on the “Book of Wisdom” with in-person and virtual classroom options for the 30 women who have registered. The Women in the Spirit Committee met for the first time this year after a call out for new members. We are now a team of 7 women. Linda Gintner, Martha Jodoin and Diana Hamman are our veterans. New members include Mary Alice McDonald, who joins us from St. Catherine’s, Robin Pritchard, a new Transfiguration parishioner and Meghan Andrews, a new empty nester who has been a member of Transfiguration since her high school days. Meghan has agreed to take point as the leader for the Committee where Meg Kastner will continue as the Staff Liaison.

- b. **PEACE AND JUSTICE** – A coordinating meeting will be held on Wednesday to discuss what the future looks like for this committee. Just Faith – Linda Gintner and Terry Jahnke are doing a mini-series on immigration. WORSHIP – Ann Smith presented Margie Benza’s report –
- c. **LITURGY** – Due to the low number of available ushers, we will be moving to one usher scheduled for each Mass. Pastoral presence (Margie or Karen), Mass Coordinators and Greeters are valuable resources during Mass in the event of an emergency. A reminder of our Remembrance Mass on Saturday, November 7 at 10AM remembering all who have lost their loved ones. The usual reception has been suspended due to Covid. Thanksgiving Mass is scheduled at St. Catherine’s for Wednesday, Nov. 23 at 7PM and Thanksgiving Day at Transfiguration at 9AM. We are in need of help in laundering and ironing our altar linens. Please contact Rose at the office. The Liturgical Ministry schedule for Dec. through February will be sent electronically next month. Fr. Mike has returned as our Sacramental Minister the first weekend of October to assist Fr. Rob with weekend Masses and assistance as needed.
- d. **PASTORAL** – Our Grief Share Program continues with seven participants from the surrounding area. We welcomed Paula Belemjian from our ministry at The Margaret Home who offered an informative presentation on the mission of the home. This coincided with a baby sale and theme basket raffle at both parishes with great success. She was most appreciative. Thanksgiving Drive will take place this year with the same schedule and with some creative sign-up and drop off capabilities. Look for information in upcoming bulletins. Our thanks to Denise Nunziato and Kathy Kyhos for coordinating this program. Our Christmas Sharing Tree has arrived which begins our “agency weeks” from October through Christmas. It was creatively changed last year due to Covid and welcomed by many to complete their shopping early. Thank-you San Crawshaw for coordinating. Our Christmas Basket Program planning continues with sponsorship starting in early November. Pastoral care of many continues with several ongoing

ministries, personal phone calls, visits, spiritual direction and funeral planning. There will be a Funeral Preplanning presentation on Oct. 12 at 10 AM. Respectfully submitted by Margie Benza.

- e. **YOUTH** – Noah reported that he hasn't gotten anyone yet to replace him on the council for next year. He says there was great attendance at Senior High youth group. Attendance at youth group meetings is often impacted by youth having jobs or participating in sports.
 - f. **MEN'S KENTUCKY TRIP** – Ben Cutter reported that with Deacon Pat now at St. Louis men have stepped up to help plan this trip. Transfiguration men have been going to Kentucky for over 30 years. They are planning on going April 23 -30 with 12-15 men already expressing interest on going on this trip.
8. Review of The Church of the Transfiguration Constitution – Sue led the discussion on the Parish Pastoral Council Constitution which was last amended on June 14, 2010. Our current Parish Mission Statement needs to be added. After discussion with Fr. Rob Sue will send the updated constitution to Martha Jodoin. Martha will then type the constitution and forward it on to Rose.
9. We thanked Mike Goonan for his past leadership as Moderator of the council. Sue was thanked for becoming our new moderator. Margie Benza led the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM
- Respectfully Submitted,
Martha Jodoin