

**CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
February 10, 2020**

ATTENDANCE: John Boroski, Joey Campagna, Ben Cutter, Kim Fluett, Mike Goonan, Karl Hamann, Megan Harold, Noah Lucia, Sue Reed, Ann Smith, Mary Beth Sullivan, Meg Kastner, Michael Bausch, Lauren Burruto, Gerry Gacloch and Martha Jodoin.

1. Mike Goonan called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Fr. Mike led the opening prayer.
2. Introductions were skipped.
3. The minutes of the December 2019 meeting were accepted.
4. Mike Goonan had no remarks to be made.
5. Lauren Burruto did a presentation on the efforts of the Global Solidarity Committee. She has chaired this committee since 2009. We have sponsored sites in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Honduras. The places that our parish sends people need to be safe sites and places where the workers can make a connection with and make a difference. On Saturday, a group is going to Honduras to help with housing, providing a water pump and make donations of tuition to a truck driving school. Our connection to Honduras is not as close as they would like. There is a new site near El Salvador called San Esteban that is safe to work in. Their needs include housing, improvements on the Catholic Church and work done on a community room.
PROPOSAL: Parish Council re-endorses work, continues support of the Global Solidarity Committee, and supports the switch to San Esteban, El Salvador. All were in favor. The bishop needs to be informed any time money is collected for other than parish income and is not on an official list of collections. Lauren will give Fr. Mike some information for the letter to the bishop.

Gerry Gacloch presented information on the “ABC Woods” proposed by the COGC ministry. More information needs to be gathered on several issues. They will be planting and dedicating a tree each for Fr. Gerry Appleby, Fr. Mike Bausch and Bishop Emeritus Matthew Clark on April 26, 2020. The parish council is in favor of this idea.

6. Fr. Mitch, Fr. Mike and Fr. Rob have begun discussions on the future of the Pittsford/Mendon parishes, especially after Fr. Mike’s retirement. St. Louis would probably be least affected. Once ideas have surfaced options will be given to the bishop to consider. All three parish councils will have a meeting together at a common place to begin talking about this issue.
7. No Long Term Planning reports were given.
8. No parishioners were present to address the Council.
9. Pastor’s Remarks – So far 229 claims have been made against the diocese involving 93 parishes. There are 100 claims not yet approved. Victims have until August 13 to make claims unless the legislature votes to extend the claim period to one more year. The Insurance Company and the Diocese will cover 90% of the claims with the rest covered by parishes. CMA – So far we have reached 89% of our goal. The last reminder letter will be going out shortly. The Board of Elections has approached us wanting to move the Barker Rd. School election site to Transfiguration. There would be four voting districts and they would need to have use of the gym and parking lot. They have their own insurance. We would need to provide 6 tables and 25 chairs. We will ask for a minimal cash donation. Verizon has approached us wanting to install an 80 ft. cell tower behind the garage. They would pay us \$18,000 a year (to increase 10% every five years) plus pay half the cost of building a three car garage to replace the one we have that is in disrepair. The cell tower would be disguised as a pine tree. This is under further negotiations.
10. Meg Kastner reported on the Women’s Kentucky Retreat that will take place the last week of April. Some new people are considering going.
11. FAITH FORMATION – ADULT -There will be a new approach to adult formation this Lent. There will be a section of our webpage with a few suggestions for online content for people to check out each week of Lent – also linked through the weekly email and Facebook page. Keep an eye out for it. The program The Chosen will be starting on Ash Wednesday. Joe Kelly will be presenting on the Gospel of John on several Sundays during Lent. The Ignatian Retreat on Feb. 29 with Fr. John Predmore now has fifty people registered so far. YOUTH – Vacation Bible School planning is underway and registration will be sent out in April. Next month Family Faith Formation Program will be open to the whole parish to join in with, we will be doing a potluck followed by a Seder dinner: registration and promo will be coming out around Ash Wednesday. PEACE AND JUSTICE – The Potato Supper was canceled due to weather. On Public Policy weekend 244 signatures were collected, down from a high of 428 signatures collected in 2016. Not sure if number of signatures is reflective of topic or attendance at church that weekend. LITURGY – Advent Candlelight Prayer was well attended each Advent Monday with quiet reflective prayer and song. Christmas Masses were held at 3:30 PM (900+), 5:30PM (650+), Midnight (500+) and 10AM (400+). Our thanks to the Cinebox and Cox families for beautiful worship space with both set-up and clean-up, the large number of liturgical ministers present, Vicky Rippel’s coordination of the Living Gospel with the 3rd/4th graders at 3:30PM Mass and the beautiful music by all the choirs. It was a joyful celebration of Jesus birth at all Masses with many positive comments by parishioners and visitors alike. Plans are underway for Lent and Easter. Ash Wednesday is 2/26/20 with Masses at 6:45AM and 5PM with an Ash & Word Service at 12:10PM. Lenten Vespers with Adoration takes place on Monday evenings of Lent at 7PM with the exception of 3/16 (Tri-Parish Retreat). Easter Sunday is 4/12/20 with Masses on Saturday, 4/11 at 8PM and Sunday at 7:30AM, 9AM, and 11:30AM. After the Liturgy sub-committee work and discussion within the Liturgy Committee, the Lenten theme has been established as, “His mercy and love endures forever.” The next quarter liturgical minister schedule was just distributed via email last week. Recruitment of liturgical ministers continues. PASTORAL – Festival of Gifts & Talents – Twenty-seven parishioners offered their time to share their gifts at the Festival on Saturday 12/7 in the Parish Life Center. Many parishioners and friends visited as well as picking up some Christmas gifts and enjoyed meeting and chatting with each other. Vicky Wejko added a special festival activity with an opportunity to make gingerbread houses. Sue Wallace organized the musical talents of so many offering selections throughout the day from the stage and with strolling carolers as well. Our hot dog lunch was well received as they enjoyed sharing lunch with others in our Café.

Thanks to our Planning Committee, Coordinators Lorey Beck and Sue Gangemi with Roxanne DiLaura, Denise Nunziato, Nancy Wahl and Janet Bleecker. Mark your calendars for next year as it moves to Saturday 11/14. GRIEF SHARE – Our last Grief Share support group ended in early December. Eight participants joined co-facilitators Ev and Jane Charette and found the group to be cohesive and supportive. The next spring session begins Wednesday, 4/01. CHRISTMAS BASKET PROGRAM – 197 families referred by the House of Mercy, Sr. Mary Regis Food Cupboard, Jordan Health Center, St. Andrews and parishioners were provided with a Christmas meal and small gifts. In the generosity of our parishioners, 131 families were sponsored by individual families and 67 sponsored by the parish assisted by many who shopped, made phone calls, baked cookies, assisted with inventory and pre-assembly tasks, assembled baskets, wrapped and delivered baskets. We are very blessed with the generosity of our parishioners who made this possible for so many. IRISH FISH FRY FEST – Save the Date – Friday, 3/13/20 from 5:30PM -8:30PM. Tickets available after all Masses on the weekends of 2/29 and 3/7 and on-line. Dinners by Tom Wahl's and Music by Dave North. FUNERAL MINISTRY – A special thanks to our Funeral Assistance, Funeral Reception and Funeral Baking Ministries. We have had an unusual number of funerals in a short span this last month. There is always a great appreciation from the families for the reverence and care they receive as well as the opportunity to have a reception during this difficult time. We all appreciate the gift of many who offer their hands in hospitality to the grieving. This would not be possible without the kindness, care and flexibility of everyone in these ministries. RCIA/RCIC – Deacon Eric has been leading our four RCIA candidates and sponsors with Art Roberts leading our RCIC program with two teenage candidates. ONGOING MINISTRY – Highlands, Cloverwood, Funeral Baking, Funeral Assistance, Funeral Reception, Good Samaritan, Liturgy Training, Make-A-Meal, Peace & Justice, Respite Care, Visitation, Social Events, Wedding Coordination and Welcome Reception. Respectfully submitted by Margie Benza, Pastoral Associate. YOUTH – Noah reported that there will be an upcoming Search Retreat. PEACE AND JUSTICE: The annual Potato Supper, scheduled for February 7, had to be cancelled the day-of due to severe winter weather. This yearly event celebrates the hundreds of volunteers who are vital to the success of Transfiguration's many social ministries. On Diocesan Public Policy Weekend (February 8 - 9), 244 parishioners signed a petition to our New York State legislators opposing the legalization of physician-assisted suicide in New York. Instead, we are requesting that more resources be dedicated to providing quality palliative and hospice care for those with terminal illnesses. Our petitions will be joined with petitions from parishes throughout the 12 county Diocese of Rochester, then provided to our legislators and Governor Cuomo.

12. Fr. Mike led the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Martha Jodoin