

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION
PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2019

ATTENDANCE: John Boroski, Ben Cutter, Rich DiMarco, Kim Fluet, Sue Gangemi, Mike Goonan, Karl Hamann, Noah Lucia, Craig Rand, Ann Smith, Mary Beth Sullivan, Victoria Wejko, Diane Carroll-Yacoby, John Hennessy, Rich Gangemi, Michael Bausch, and Martha Jodoin.

1. Following the Lenten Prayer Service in the church Craig called the meeting to order at 7:40pm.
2. Introductions were made.
3. The minutes of the December meeting were approved.
4. Moderator's remarks - Craig thanked the committees who planned Advent, Christmas, Lent and Ash Wednesday services. A parishioner who wishes to remain anonymous has offered an up to \$10,000 CMA matching grant for any donation made during lent. \$1700 has already come in. We will still be short of our goal even if we make the match. Craig and Mike Goonan will work on a letter to be sent to the diocese after Easter to make clear why our parish is not making our CMA goal for the first time. Out of 90 parishes only 16 have made their goal at this time. Craig thanked the committee chairs for their work during the past two years. Craig also expressed thanks to Ann Gallagher for the search retreat and making the youth feel like this is their home.
5. Building for the Future planning process sub-committees updates – COMMUNICATIONS – John reported that the newsletter has been a spectacular publication that reaches out and shares what is going on in our parish. Branding for the parish is postponed – need to gather data, and do demographic research and what is projected for the next two to three years. There are 75 ministries in our parish. They are developing a graphic and a welcome center for the gathering area. FINANCE – Diane reported that they are focusing on how to raise more money. There is a finance corner in each newsletter and they may do one for the bulletin. They hope to have a seminar on bequests, which is a diocesan program. They are discussing other ways for people to donate such as: an online giving button but it is expensive, Pay Pal, etc. CULTURE – Martha reported that their presentation was well received. They hope to have the slide presentation available for pastor candidates. We recruited four new members, five counting Ben Cutter who just let us know he is also interested. The group will be working on the written parish profile and hope to have it completed by fall. PASTORAL CARE– Kim Fluet reported that through Bridges of Faith Small Christian communities are being formed. The goal is for First Communion candidates next year to form SCC possibly by what mass they attend. For hospitality they are redesigning the Welcoming Bread program. New members are be asked to inventory their special gifts/talents to connect them to pastoral needs. BUILDING and GROUNDS – Rich Gangemi reported that they have done a thorough inspection in seven different areas and the facilities are in good shape. The front drainage in front of the offices needs to be addressed. The garage will need to be replaced sometime in the future. The front of the church needs to be painted. Maureen O'Connor will oversee the Building and Grounds department, Rose Volker will be handling the day to day communications. Craig thanked all the committee members for their hard work.
6. No parishioners were in attendance to address the council.
7. Pastor's Remarks – Fr. Bill Jarema will be doing the parish retreat this year. It will be based on the Beatitudes. Safety around the campus is being addressed. There will be a walk through by

the fire chief, police chief and sheriff to help in our developing an evolving plan for safety. Fr. Mike reported he will be celebrating his 40th anniversary of ordination on April 27 at the 4:30 p.m. mass with a mass of Thanksgiving followed at 6:30pm with a dinner at the Burgundy Basin Inn. There will be one mass on Sunday April 28 at 10:00 a.m. with an informal reception afterwards.

8. Victoria Wejko spoke on her role in the Faith Formation and Sacraments Program. She showed a short video on the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – a Montessori based program for three to six year olds.
9. Cluster Reports

FAITH FORMATION – Children’s Formation – Just under 30 children will be receiving their First Communion the first two weekends in May. This spring we launch an adaptive faith formation program. Three children are enrolled as we use this spring as a pilot program with a goal for it to grow over the years. Bridges of Faith added in a new small community element this year; we are hearing good feedback from it but also recognize the need to make it more user-friendly. Next year we are looking towards having families meet here once a month for a large family gathering, and once a month with their small groups. Details are still being worked out and we are starting to ask for feedback on how to best serve this group next year. Preparations are starting for VBS. Victoria is working on making connections with surrounding Catholic Churches who do not have a VBS program to promote ours to their families. New this year there will be a formal check in and check out system for campers. The goal is to help better address the safety concerns of our families. The snack station will be revamped with healthier options. Faith, Family and Fun is in full swing prepping for this year’s presentation of the Living Passion. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – We are so lucky to have an Eagle Scout helping to make our atrium for this new pre-school program which will be launching next fall. This is a Montessori approach to catechesis that addresses the needs of the child from ages 3 to 12 years old. Our atrium (prepared environment) will be for ages 3 to 6 with plans to add an additional one for 6-12 years old in later years. Report by Victoria Wejko.

YOUTH and ADULT FORMATION Updates- Ann Gallagher report includes - Search Retreat was held the first weekend in March with a slightly older and smaller group than usual, which meant that the teens really went deep in their faith. The retreat adapted the first week of the Ignatian spiritual exercises for teens. NCYC youth registrations are nearly 20 teens and rising. The pilgrim group will be registered with the diocese by the end of March. Conference is Nov. 20-23, 2019 in Indianapolis. Confirmation Year Two retreat with candidates and their sponsors was held yesterday. Seventy-five teens will be confirmed on May 6. Christ Life: The third of the Christ Life series, Sharing Christ began this week. Thirty people are participating (about a third of those parishioners who had participated in Discovering, and about two thirds of those who participated in Following). Dr. Joe Kelly began his Lenten Scripture series yesterday. Ash Wednesday Potluck drew about 60 people for this first-time event with a discussion of the Christmas giveaway book The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity. We’re planning a Pentecost Potluck on June 9 – all are welcome, but particular invitations will be going out to parishioners who celebrated sacraments this year and their families. Looking ahead – Anne is discerning a possible change in the model for middle school formation. After many years of growth, the Sunday morning youth group for 6th-8th graders has seen declining attendance this

year. Maybe it is just a demographic glitch but we're considering the possibility of piggybacking middle school formation with the family Bridges of Faith program in the future. PEACE & JUSTICE Report – John Boroski reports that over 80 people enjoyed fellowship and a “potato supper” on February 1 sponsored by the Peace & Justice Coordinating Committee to thank our many Social Ministry volunteers. John and Jeanne Strazzabosco were the featured speakers, sharing their experiences involving poverty and the Kicks for Campers program. Diocesan Public Policy Weekend in February – 200 parishioners signed a petition requesting New York legislative support for the Farmworkers Fair Labor Practices Bill. Our petitions will be combined with those from the twelve-county Rochester Diocese, and submitted to Albany. JustFaith 24 week program is approaching a successful completion. Participants will be strengthened in their faith and will develop a practical understanding of how to make a difference in the world. Co-facilitators are Joy Morris of Transfiguration, plus Fr. Rob Bourcy and Rick Micoli from St. Catherine. Cultivating Non-violence, Harvesting Peace program has concluded. Co-facilitated by Linda Gintner and Terry Jahnke, there were eleven participants. This experience has potential to stimulate its graduates to pursue related Social Justice ministries or advocacy. RAIHN (Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network) provides a transition for families that have temporarily lost their housing due to fire, loss of livelihood, illness, new to the Rochester area, etc. Transfiguration volunteers will participate March 11 and 16 by sharing a meal, helping with homework, playing games, watching videos or just talking. This is a great opportunity for Transfiguration families to help the less fortunate. Global Solidarity and RAIHN leaders will be meeting with the Peace and Justice Committee in April as part of our ongoing effort to enhance mutual knowledge, support and relationships between our Social Ministry and the PJC. The Peace and Justice Committee is considering an educational program on the Opioid crisis, to be offered in September, with invitations to St. Louis and St. Catherine of Siena parishes. On March 26 a team of parishioners, including teens, will participate in the Hope for the Homeless ministry in collaboration with St. Mary's Church.

PASTORAL UPDATE – Ann Smith gave the following condensed report for Jan/Feb/March by Margie Benza. LITURGY – Christmas masses were well attended. Our appreciation to the Arts and Environment Committee, our liturgical ministers and choir who offered a beautiful and prayerful worship space. We appreciated a parishioner's generous donation of over 800 books (The Biggest Lie in Christianity) as a gift to the congregation distributed after all Christmas Masses with the intention to be used for discussion at our Ash Wednesday Pot Luck on March 6. Mass on the Solemnity of Mary Our Mother was celebrated on New Year's Day with appreciated attendance. There is an ongoing need for recruitment of greeters, acolytes, lectors and Ministers of Communion. There is always an open invitation to you and your friends. We welcome Pippo and Janet Realbuto as our newest trained ministers of Communion. Ash Wednesday services were well attended. Lenten Prayer begins on Monday, March 11 with Lenten Vespers and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7pm. Other dates include March 18, 25, April 8 and 15. Fr. Bill Jarema will be doing the Tri-Parish Retreat April 1 to 3 with a theme on the Beatitudes. PASTORAL- Ev and Jane Charette will be facilitating the Grief Share session beginning April 3 from 12:30 pm to 2:00pm through June in the Parish Life Center. They will also co-facilitate the Grief Share support group beginning on May 5 from 10:15am-11:15am in the Parish Life Center Living Room. All are welcome. SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE – Irish Fish Fry Fest takes place March 15 with the fish fry offered through Tom Wahl's and Irish music provided

by the Dave North Band. WELCOME BREAD TRANSITION – Our Welcome Bread ministry originating in 2005 will be transitioning into the new Welcome Reception Ministry beginning in June 2019. Sunday hospitality will be moved into the PLC gym to welcome new parishioners on a quarterly basis (Mar, June, Sept and Dec). Ministry Coordinator, Joy Morris and volunteers will welcome our new parishioners with a special breakfast of Danish and donuts offering welcoming hospitality and conversation with a parish information table. OTHER ACTIVITIES – include Ministries of Bereavement, Christmas Baskets, Cloverwood Highlands, Pastoral Counseling, Peace and Justice, Respite Ministry, Spiritual Direction, Visitation, Wedding Coordination, Welcome Bread, and sacramental preparation as requested.

YOUTH – Noah spoke about his concern about the lack of participation in the RAIHN event.

10. Following closing prayer the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Jodoin