

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 2019

ATTENDANCE: John Boroski, Joey Campagna, Ben Cutter, Rich DiMarco, Kim Fluet, Sue Gangemi, Michael Goonan, Karl Hamann, Megan Harold, Sue Reed, Ann Smith, Mary Beth Sullivan, Victoria Wejko, Ron Jodoin, Diane Yacoby, John Hennessy, Michael Bausch and Martha Jodoin.

1. Mike Goonan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Fr. Mike led the opening prayer "Adsumus: The Council Prayer".
2. Introductions were not made as no other parishioners were present.
3. The minutes of the June 10, 2019 meeting were accepted as written.
4. Moderator Mike Goonan welcomed everyone and said that this year will have some unique challenges.

5. Long Term Planning Reports

Culture – Ron and Martha Jodoin reported on how the committee reviewed data and spent a lot of time discussing words that could be used to describe culture succinctly. The committee produced a new parish mission statement. The slide presentation on culture is on the parish website. They also made a word cloud. Ron distributed copies of the Parish Profile that would be available to potential pastors after Fr. Mike retires. It was suggested that the parish profile could be sent to new parishioners.

Parish Life – Kim Fluet discussed the document that her committee has been working on. Parishioners and staff highlighted activities that were listed. Eighty-five percent of the activities have been touched or done. The Welcoming Bread group is now doing a welcoming event for new parishioners. The next step will be to work with Communication to promote events. The talent survey has already been used to contact people with sewing skills for a recent project.

Communications – John Hennessy reported they are working on a five year plan. They have been working on bulletin changes, the new Welcome Center and the quarterly newsletter. They have also been looking at giving trends. They are also trying to predict what the future will look like for our parish by using demographics from what the schools anticipate and real estate data. Thirty to fifty new families join our parish each year with half being new to the area and half joining because they didn't like the church where they were attending. We need to update our parish lists by removing people who are not interested in being members but are still on our list. It was suggested that Fr. Mike could send out a letter. Fr. Mike will consider what steps to take. We need programs that increase parishioner participation. We need to identify ways to attract new parishioners.

Finance – Diane Yacoby did a slide presentation. They have updated how they report finances in the bulletin. The quarterly newsletter has a Finance Corner. There is a new online giving option we are trying on a trial basis – "We Share". There will be an estate planning/legacy giving seminar on Sept. 17. Planned savings has been added to the budget.

Building and Grounds – This committee completed an extensive review of our properties. They will evaluate twice a year. Painting of the church is the only activity that needs to be completed and that will be done soon. There is a new Welcome Center in the Gathering Area.

6. No parishioners were in attendance to address the Council.

7. Fr. Mike reported that we are nine weeks into our budget and \$1100 behind which is not bad for this time in our budget. He invited 11 people to meet with him to discuss the sex abuse issue the church is facing. Seven people attended. They expressed different levels of anger but are keeping their faith. He will discuss with the staff if he should do more sessions. There is a group of 38 men and two women to greet people entering church and provide safety and security during mass. We are getting bids for security cameras and have been working with the Information Technology Department from the Diocese. CMA – we will have the same goal this year. Fr. Mike will be sending out a letter. There will be envelopes in the pews. A letter from the bishop will be sent in October.

8. As other parishes in the diocese are combining should we be discussing the future of the Pittsford/Mendon parishes? There are no issues right now. We will invite parishioner Karen Reinferd who is Director of Planning for the Diocese to attend our next pastoral council meeting.

9. Vicky Wejko distributed a pamphlet on Early Childhood Catechesis. She described the sacraments program and the education programs available at our parish. There is a new program Catechesis of the Good Shepherd which is an active learning program starting with four year olds and will eventually add three year olds and expand through to six year olds. The program is being advertised at St. Catherine's.

10. Cluster Reports

FAITH FORMATION – Kim Fluet presented the following report. CHILDREN/FAMILY FORMATION – VBS was a huge success with just over 130 volunteers and campers and a lot of positive feedback. Next year we will be pushing back the week of VBS in hopes to not compete with 4th of July vacations. Bridges of Faith begins its 3rd year with monthly meetings as a large family gathering on either Sunday afternoon or Monday evening and small family groupings and one activity done at home. We are moving towards a flip learning model to ensure families are receiving a large amount of active learning reinforcements during gathered sessions. A parent meeting for CGS will be held in September and the program will start in October. Reconciliation preparation will begin in September with a parent refresher session. Preparation for Confirmation has started. There are 80 total candidates in the two-year program. Forty will be confirmed in the spring. YOUTH MINISTRY – Senior High Youth Group starts up this week. There is a new model for Middle School youth ministry. They will meet monthly concurrently with the Bridges of Faith program. Several special events around the topic of social justice are also planned for the year (some service projects at Morning Star, and two mini-retreats with the Sisters of St. Joseph, a taste of what the senior high teens do for a week in the summer.) As an outgrowth of our summer service retreat with the SSJs, teens have asked to continue regularly attending the Thursday night Mass and outreach to the homeless at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality. This is an exciting emerging ministry! This year, we will look for ways to continue to build relationships and presence between Transfiguration youth ministry, St. Joe's House, and the SSJs. Twenty-seven teens and chaperones are heading to Indy in November for NCYC! ADULT FORMATION – We are hosting a special event for parents on Helping Teens With Stress, Anxiety and Depression on Oct. 2. Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry Leslie Barkin will come and lead the discussion. New program this fall – The Chosen series, dessert and a show. This is a

beautiful show about the people who followed Jesus! We already have heard from several people who are interested. Lots of other offerings this fall include Joe Kelly's series on Models of Church, Sue Reed's book discussion on Dance of the Dissident Daughter, women's bible study, etc.

PEACE AND JUSTICE REPORT – John Boroski reported that beginning in September the Peace and Justice Coordinating Committee will engage in a comprehensive discernment process led by Damian Zynda. Using Ignatian-based processes, we will reflect on the role of the committee, as well as the role and engagement of committee members. During this discernment year, we will continue our ongoing Social Ministry support (e.g. upcoming Clothing Drive and Thanksgiving turkeys in November and Christmas Baskets in December, etc.) After sponsoring four JustFaith Ministry programs in two years, we will have a hiatus for 2019-2020. This will provide us an opportunity to analyze and evaluate recent changes in the core 24-week JustFaith program (content, process, reading and support materials, etc.). The Healthy Sisters Women's Bean Project through Catholic Family Center has folded for various reasons. We had supported this yearly "bean sale" ministry for over 16 years at Transfiguration. Our thanks to Patty Lovallo and Bernadette Malaret who coordinated/supported this effort for years.

PASTORAL UPDATE – LITURGY – This month we welcome Jane Charette as staff presence at weekend Masses sharing the monthly schedule with Margie. Our Masses returned to the fall schedule this past weekend with the 4:30 PM on Saturday and 9 AM and 11:30 AM on Sunday. Over the summer we have welcomed new lectors, Ministers of Communion and six new acolytes to our ministry. Our Liturgy Committee reconvenes in October in planning future liturgies and para-liturgies with a sub-committee meeting to determine our theme for Advent. PASTORAL – The twelve week Grief Share Program beginning Sept. 11 with eight participants. Our thanks to Ev and Jane Charette who are co-facilitating. We will continue offering the program in the fall and in April to serve many who have lost loved ones. The monthly Grief Share Support Group is held on the first Sunday of the month following the 9 AM mass and is co-facilitated by Ev and Jane Charette. It began with a "pilot" schedule of a few months in the spring and has been well received and will continue throughout the year. Our Social Events Committee meets next weekend to plan our Halloween Oktoberfest this year on October 19 in the PLC. A fun DJ and costumes (optional) should be great fun. Tickets go on sale after Masses 9/28 and are also available in the office as well. Our first Festival of Gifts and Talents which was born out of our Pastoral Planning Committee takes place on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 11 AM to 3 PM. Please consider sharing your gifts and talents in this festival atmosphere with your fellow parishioners and those visiting with the option to sell Christmas gifts. Gingerbread House making will be incorporated into the event. Our thanks to Lorey Beck and Sue Gangemi for coordinating this effort. More details will be in the bulletin. Our second workshop for caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer's-Dementia takes place on Saturday, October 19. Our thanks to Bernadette Boyatzies for coordinating this effort. Additional details to come. Plans are underway for a monthly Alzheimer's-Dementia Support Group. More details to follow. Our first Welcome Reception for new members took place yesterday following the 9 AM mass in the PLC with a great response from fellow parishioners. New families were given a copy of the parish directory, Stewardship booklet, a welcome folder, our Christmas giveaway book (The Biggest Lie in Christianity by Matthew Kelly), homemade peach bread and hopefully a feeling of welcome. Receptions will be on a quarterly basis, coordinated by Joy Morris and supported by our Welcome Reception Committee which includes our newest "welcome ambassador" families. Over the summer our "Usher" ministry was developed. Our thanks to Devon Van Vechten and Jim Walsh who presented at the spring parish council meeting and are overseeing this effort. Over 40 parish members have spent time in training with the

Fairport Police Chief and on-site training with Jim and Devon. Fr. Mike has mentioned this group over the summer and in his recent bulletin notes. They are visible by their navy blazers and gold lapel crosses and are stationed in the Gathering Area and at the back of the church during mass. Other active ministry work includes Bereavement, Cloverwood, First Friday, Highland's Make-A-Meal, Respite Care, funeral planning, parish planning committee, pastoral care and visitation, spiritual direction, wedding coordination and Welcome Reception. This was submitted by Margie Benza and reported by Ann Smith.

11. Fr. Mike led the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Martha Jodoin