

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ZOOM AND IN-PERSON MEETING MINUTES

April 12, 2021

ATTENDED BY: John Boroski, Joey Campagna, Ben Cutter, Rich DiMarco, Kim Fluet, Sue Gangemi, Mike Goonan, Karl Hamann, Megan Harold, Noah Lucia, Sue Reed, Ann Smith, Fr. Mike Bausch, Margie Benza, Jane Vallely and Martha Jodoin.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:07p.m. Fr. Mike led the Opening Prayer.
2. Sue Gangemi made a motion to accept the minutes of January 11, February 8 and March 27. Seconded by Karl Hamann. All were in favor.
3. Mike Goonan thanked everyone for attending the special meeting on March 27. He also commented that the Easter services went well.
4. Covid 19 - Any changes needed? According to CDC guidelines, we will no longer sanitize pews. The gift table will be moved back to the side. A few people are frustrated at being told where to sit. We will gently invite people to their seats. In the past 12 months, we have had no transmitted cases.
5. A homily schedule is being worked on. Between the two parishes, there will be three deacons. They will rotate preaching and it will be every other weekend. They will preach at both places. Fr. Rob and the retired priest will work out a schedule. Fr. Rob will be saying most of the Masses at Transfiguration until the end of the year. This year the Christmas schedule will remain the same as last year. We will have two Remembrance Mass in November, one at each parish. At Transfiguration, there will be a special Mass on the first Saturday in November and at St. Catherine, names are read at each Mass the first weekend. Both staffs will be having a meeting with Karen Reinfiend on April 27. There have been positive comments from parishioners about the assignment of Fr. Rob. People are happy we are not closing and think that Fr. Rob is a good fit. The Cluster Committee has worked hard to be open to everyone. In Auburn, nine parishes are going down to two. At St. Louis, they are cutting down on their number of masses due to a priest's health. The Cluster Committee will be working on a commonly asked questions and answers sheet. Please submit any questions you or other parishioners have to Fr. Mike or Karen Reinfiend.
6. Open Forum for Parishioners – There were no comments.
7. Pastor's Remarks – After 12 months we have received a contract from Verizon about the cell tower they plan to install. It will be 80 feet high. Our Harris Beech lawyers have sent the contract to a consultant in Syracuse, as there were eight pages of technical language. We will pay \$1,000 for this service. The annual cell tower payment to us will be negotiated. After the contract is accepted it goes to the town of Pittsford. The FCC rules on the contract and not the town. Public notice will then be given to neighbors. Diocesan Bankruptcy and lawsuit update – The diocese is still sorting cases and the cases will all be resolved at the same time. Parish Financial update is delayed as Maureen has Covid. We are \$8,000 short of the projected Easter collection. CMA is short \$13,461. A letter was mailed to lapsed donors. Pastoral Council terms – Joey Campagna has completed his two-year term on council and will need to be replaced. Rich DiMarco's first term has ended and he has agreed to stay on for a second term. Ben Cutter's first term has ended. He will consult with his wife and decide if he will stay on for a second term and will inform Fr. Mike of his decision. Fr. Mike will then publicize opening to parish to gather names of people interested in being on the Council.

8. Cluster Reports

FAITH FORMATION – Anne Gallagher's written report - Vicky is gearing up for Vacation Bible School 7/12-16. YM is gearing up for Search retreat June 4-6 and the Sisters of St. Joseph Summer Service Immersion retreat 7/26-30. Unfortunately, our Diocese has decided NOT to bring a delegation to NCYC in November (disappointing many of our young people)! Joe Kelly's spring series begins this week. Kim added that 31 children will be making their First Communion with the majority attending May 1 and 2. Confirmation will be April 20. Vicky has been conducting the Good Shepherd program for 3- to 5-year-olds.

PEACE AND JUSTICE - John reported that while this program is on pause, they did collect signatures for a petition at Transfiguration on Public Policy Weekend in February. The petition was sent to our legislators and it requested continuation and increased funding for the NOURISH NEW YORK PROGRAM. This pandemic-originated program expired in December 2020. NOURISH NEW YORK accomplishes two goals: it offers market support to farmers, the fishing community, and food processors who have been adversely impacted by the economic effects of the pandemic, while getting high-quality food to individuals and families across the state through the regional Food Banks to local parish and community food pantries. GOOD NEWS! NOURISH NEW YORK will become a permanent program in the NYS Department of Agriculture, and will receive \$25 million in funding this quarter and an additional \$25 million for the

upcoming budget year! Thank you for advocating for this creative and effective program, which responds to the need for hunger relief and farm survival across New York State.

LITURGY – Lenten Vespers with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during the six Mondays was a quiet time of prayer and reflection for those who attended. Our Lenten theme, “Everlasting Love” was weaved throughout homilies, the bulletin and several faith formation publications. As vaccines become more available and weather is breaking, we have welcomed back increasing numbers of parish family members to Mass. Protocols remain in place at Mass with names and email contact being confirmed at the door for tracing, greeter seating and direction at Communion and dismissal. Holy Week and Easter Liturgies were well attended. Holy Thursday and Good Friday were planned to optimize COVID guidelines. They were well attended and we are happy to report that we welcomed our acolytes back for the first time since last year. Reservations were required with an attendance at Easter Vigil close to ninety, 7:30 AM Mass at sixty and the 9AM and 11AM full at 150. The Easter Vigil brought the baptism of our teen Berkley Smith as we welcomed into the church adults, Leo Ramos and Anne Colangelo. The music continues to be an amazing technological gift that lifts our spirits, draws us closer to an encounter with the Holy One and is an integral part of liturgy. We are grateful to Sue Wallace and the combined choirs of Transfiguration and St. Catherine’s. Sue Wallace has returned to Sunday liturgies accompanying music on the piano. Ron Jodoin joined in yesterday at the 9AM playing his guitar. Margie DiPaola is also returning for funerals as requested with Sue accompanying on the piano. Our appreciation for all who worked so diligently to offer hospitality and beautiful liturgy to parishioners and visitors during these holiest of days. Especially streaming efforts by Nancy Wahl, Vicky Wejko and Paul Schultz. As previously discussed, based on parishioner input, needs of the incoming pastor and the Clustering Committee recommended a new Mass schedule shared with St. Catherine’s which begins the weekend of 6/26-27. Mass times are scheduled at Transfiguration on Saturday at 4:00 PM and Sunday at 8:45 AM. At St. Catherine’s on Saturday at 5:30 PM and Sunday at 10:45 AM. Further information on liturgical minister information will be forthcoming after future discussion with the new pastor and respective staffs later this month. All will be welcome to participate. The June liturgical minister schedule will be forwarded by the end of April. A special thank you to our greeters, ushers, lectors, and sanitizing crews who have tirelessly ministered since last year through COVID in assisting us in keeping our doors open. We could not have done it without their help, commitment and dedication. Several funerals were delayed due to COVID and are now in the midst of being planned. Specifically for John Mikulsky 5/29, Pat Hettrich 6/26 and former parishioner and founder, George Burgmaier 5/29. Plans are underway for Fr. Mike’s liturgy and retirement picnic on 6/20. The committee will offer further details at the end of this meeting.

PASTORAL – Our Grief Share Ministry began a new session last week with eleven participants from various local parishes being led by Judy Herlihy. The program located in our PLC Double Room runs through the end of June. Our Margaret Home ministry continues to support the home with over twenty- five volunteers assisting with this vital ministry. Women are welcome to join us. Contact Margie for further details. Through the generosity of many, our weekly food drive continues offering support to Bethany House, Eastern Service Workers, House of Mercy, St. Regis Food Cupboard, St. Andrew’s Food cupboards and some parishioners in need. Our Make-A-Meal ministry offered homemade love and care to two parish families dealing with hospice care and unexpected surgery. Very welcomed and appreciated.

OTHER ACTIVITIES – Most direct outreach ministries continue to be suspended due to COVID. Martha Jodoin reported that Golden Link had a ZOOM memorial for Dean Santos this past Sunday. Ron used a recording of Dean singing one of his songs and added in choir members, which was played during this memorial. They used pictures of the choir and Transfiguration.

YOUTH MINISTRY – Noah reported that chat groups and conversations are going well. Teens are upset that NCYC was cancelled so prematurely. The cost of travel was going to increase to \$1,000 a person so that may have added to the decision.

9. At this point in the meeting, Fr. Mike was excused as there was a presentation on our June 20 retirement event for him.

10. Margie Benza led the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Jodoin