

CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

February 14, 2022

ATTENDED BY: Ben Cutter, Rich DiMarco, Kim Fluets, Sue Gangemi, Sarah Gargano, Gerry Gacioch, Karl Hamann, Megan Harold, Mike Lutz, Ann Smith, Mary Beth Sullivan, Rob Bourcy, Margie Benza, Maureen O'Connor, Ron Jodoin and Martha Jodoin.

- A. Fr. Rob led the opening prayer. Sue Gangemi called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- B. Mary Beth Sullivan made a motion to accept the December minutes, seconded by Mike Lutz. The minutes were approved.
- C. There was no feedback from the parish about the constitution. Mike Lutz made a motion to approve the 2022 Parish Pastoral Council Constitution. Seconded by Mary Beth Sullivan. The council was in favor and the Constitution is approved.
- D. Ten parishioners attended the Church Synod Discussion on Saturday. Sixteen parishioners attended on Sunday. The council discussed the synod themes of The Journeying Companions and Forming Ourselves in Synodality. Kim Fluets took notes and will submit our responses.
- E. PEACE & JUSTICE – John Boroski submitted the following: After a long Covid pause to our formal Discernment process, the Peace & Justice Coordinating Committee reconvened, with the following outcomes: We resolved to continue our ministry, acknowledging changed societal and parish context. We ratified the revised identity and Mission statement that had been developed early in the Discernment: All current members affirmed their desire to continue their membership on the committee. (Current members are Margie Benza, Eric Bessette, Gerry Gacioch, Trish Goodman, Judy Herlihy, Joy Morris, Janice Powalski, and John Boroski.) Current initiatives include a resumption of social justice education programs, and exploration of a possible new ministry focused on refugee support. We plan to expand membership on the Committee. FAITH FORMATION – Anne Gallagher wrote the following report: Synod – We've hosted several Synod listening sessions with teens, parents, and youth ministry alumni and also collected responses from our youth ministry community via a Google form. One thing to be thinking about is how we as a parish can actively listen to the concerns of our youth and families and have an intentional response to what's been shared through this process. We are sifting through the responses now and will submit them to the Diocese in March, when we should be able to share some highlights and takeaways. Lent – We will be creating weekly mini-Prayer Playlists for Lent this year, focused on the Sunday Mass readings, with music, reflection, and activity suggestions, along with a video reflection with Anne, Vicky, and Karen we're calling "Holy Ground Hot Takes." Anne will speak at Masses the weekend of 3/5 and 3/6 to give a walkthrough of how to use the weekly playlists to make the most of your Lent. They will be in PDF format, linked on our website, weekly emails, and the youth ministry group text app. Promotional Bookmarks are in! This year we created a bookmark outlining all the wonderful offerings for the Lenten season to help encourage people to join in. Youth Ministry – We needed to reschedule the Search retreat to April 7-8 due to the surge in omicron cases in January. Notre Dame was able to find us an overnight when Pittsford school happened to have a superintendent's day. It'll be a great way to roll into Holy Week. After a pause in our larger in-person gatherings during January, Confirmation and Middle School Youth Group are back to

meeting in person. Senior High Youth Group continues on Tuesday nights. Sacraments – We have a confirmation date – Monday, May 9 at Sacred Heart Cathedral within the full Mass. This year, about 30 teen peer leaders and 10 adult leaders have led small groups of 40 Year 1 candidates and 25 Year 2 candidates in their preparation for the Sacrament. The growth of our peer leadership team is one of the blessings of these last few years. Our second graders are now beginning their preparation for First Communion after completing and receiving their First Reconciliation in December. We have 15 students in preparation for First Communion. Adult Formation – We’ve begun the second season of The Chosen series with a group of adults on Wednesday nights – watching an episode, followed by faith sharing, discussion, and prayer. On Sat. March 5 Damian Zynda will present an Ignatian Day of retreat in honor of the 500th anniversary of St. Ignatius’ conversion. Tech – For those who like to pray with music, we are now on Spotify – follow us at Transfiguration Pittsford Youth ministry. YouTube channel subscribers as of 1/31 were 553 (plus 6 since last report) and views on YouTube channel in January were 1,406 (206 more than usual). Average views on our live stream of Mass in January were 208. Average views on our virtual children’s liturgy of the word in January were 23.2. In place of our quarterly newsletter Nancy Wahl created an Advent and Christmas in Review video which was posted on Facebook and YouTube, as of 1/31 it had 174 views. Learning! Victoria spent February 8th and 9th virtually at ENGAGE Conference 2022. The conference was all about church technology focused on tools and strategies to best engage people in the online environment. Family Formation – We are back to in-person sessions after going virtual only for January. Our family formation lesson in February is all around the liturgical year. March gathered session will be on Lent and preparing for Easter. We continue to get a lot of positive feedback on the video lessons Karen and Vicky are making to go with the weekly at home lessons. Vacation Bible School – Save the Date: July 11-15. Our theme this year will be Christmas in July, registration will begin in April. Joint Events – Vicky is working with Karen on a family fest on Ash Wednesday. It will be a soup supper followed by an overview of Ash Wednesday and Lent including Lenten Jeopardy prior to the 7pm Mass at St. Catherine’s. Anne and Karen are working on a possible Holy Thursday event. WORSHIP: Margie Benza wrote the following report. LITURGY – Advent Evening Candlelight Prayer on Mondays (11/29, 12/6, & 12/13) were well attended. Christmas Masses – 12/24 – 3:30PM, 5:30PM, Midnight and 12/25 at 10 AM were comfortably attended with under 600 for the four Masses. New Year’s Mass (Solemnity of Mary) was celebrated only at St. Catherine’s. The mask mandate was lifted this past weekend with a positive response. Section one in the church remains as a social distance, masked area. In the future we are hoping soon to move to passing the collection basket and singing. We continue with the open invitation for teen and adult cross bearers. Plans are underway for Lent and Easter planning: Ash Wednesday – Transfiguration Mass at 6:45AM with Ash & Word at 12:10PM. St. Catherine – Mass at 9AM and 7PM. Holy Thursday – St. Catherine’s Mass at 7PM, Transfiguration – Exposition 8:30PM-10:30PM, Good Friday Service – 2:30PM at Transfiguration, 3PM at St. Catherine’s. 7:00PM – Simple Stations at Transfiguration. Easter Vigil – Transfiguration – 8PM, Easter Sunday – 8:45AM and 10:45 AM Mass at both parishes. PASTORAL – “Surviving the Holidays” presentation was offered 11/10 with twelve in attendance. Our Grief Share group ended in mid-December with ten in attendance for the 13-week program. Next program begins in April. There has been some hospital and home visitations on a limited basis. SYNOD meetings – After Mass this weekend (Attendance with ten on Saturday and

sixteen on Sunday}. Next weekend after both Masses. Disappointing numbers. Gently used and new warm winter clothing (coats, hats, gloves, boots) were collected in the Gathering Area in early December with a great response with items delivered to the House of Mercy, Eastern Service Workers, Sr. Regis and the Children's Closet. An additional hat/mitten drive took place these last two weekends with items delivered to the House of Mercy, Eastern Service Workers and the Children's Closet. Used tablets and laptops were collected in November for the Afghan refugees with ten being donated. Christmas Baskets – 198 families were cared for with direct sponsorship and financial donations. The parish sponsored 75 baskets. Sharing Tree – over 100 gifts donated for families through various agencies. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – Karl Hamann reported that burnt out lights were replaced in the church. We are looking into switching to LEDs for church. Cell tower presentation was given to Pittsford Town Board. Tonight was to be another discussion on it but the board suspended it to March.

- F. Open Forum – No parishioners addressed the Council.
- G. Status of Parish Retreat with St. Catherine's on March 21. Joe Kelly will be leading this year's parish retreat. It was suggested and agreed that the Parish Councils from Transfiguration and St. Catherine's would have a soup supper on March 21 before the retreat that evening. More details will be sent out.
- H. Boonville update – Ben Cutter reported that Rob Kozarits is in charge of the Boonville retreat. Pulpit announcements recruiting more men to attend will take place at St. Catherine's this weekend and at Transfiguration next weekend.
- I. CMA/Finance update – Maureen O'Connor presented a financial update.
- J. Fr. Rob led us in closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Martha Jodoin