

## **Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes Oct. 20, 2022**

**Attendees:** Fr. Michael Merritt; Mary Krehling; Dan Durocher; Eileen Bielemeier; Karen Kaindl; and Paul Statskey.

**Absent:** Fr. Felicjan Sierotowicz; Kathy DeMass; Cathy Immerman; and Jill Lee.

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m.

The opening prayers from Pastoral Council Prayers and Faith Sharing were led by Mary Krehling.

The topic of a lighting issue was added to the agenda.

### **Old Business**

Discussion on the parish directory was tabled for this meeting.

### 2023 Parish Picnic

Discussion was held on the 2023 Parish Picnic, as well as a date and time for the picnic. July 22, 2023 was strongly considered for the 2023 picnic, and it is hoped that a Mass will be part of the picnic.

Mary Krehling is looking at reserving the Bay Shelter at Fair Haven Beach State Park for the occasion. Dan Durocher offered to chair the Parish Picnic Committee, having filled that role in 2022. Paul Statskey is looking at spearheading the parking passes. The first committee meeting will take place in March 2023.

### Pastoral and Parish Ministries

Dewey Poole sent a mass email to people who have previously volunteered to serve as lectors, sacristans, and coffee hour hosts.

Fr. Merritt approved permission for Marie Smith to become a lector trainer.

All volunteers must have completed case training and background checks. Training would be open to anyone.

A message from Jill Lee regarding social ministry updates was read at the meeting.

Coffee hour has been ongoing at St. Thomas the Apostle in Red Creek since Oct. 9. An estimated 16 people have attended coffee hour. However, it is likely that a coffee hour will only be held once a month at St. Mary Magdalene in Wolcott. St. Mary Magdalene is set to host a monthly coffee hour after Mass on Nov. 5.

When asked about extraordinary ministers at Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity (CCBT), it was reported that there is no need for extraordinary ministers at this time.

However, if a parishioner is in need of a priestly visit, they will be encouraged to call the rectory.

Martha Ministry is still in the planning stages at CCBT.

Paul Statskey will investigate the relaunch of the men's group and will volunteer for van driver training.

Mary Krehling spoke to Marie Smith about restarting the CCBT Women's Book Club. It was reported that Marie Smith would be interested in hosting an organizational meeting.

When asked about host sites for CCBT groups, it was determined that, due to liability, planning meetings can take place at the home of a parishioner or group member, but once an official group is formed, meetings are required to take place at a church or public place.

#### Finance Planning Committee/Merger

Karen Kaindl attended the Oct. 19 meeting and handed out packets detailing the ages of diocesan priests in the Diocese of Rochester, the data on church attendance before, during, and after the COVID-19 pandemic, and the condition of each church building in Wayne County. She reported that it is important to have a plan ready for 2023 to consolidate all three eastern Wayne County parishes---CCBT, St. Joseph the Worker Parish, and St. Michael's Church in Newark. Currently, the three parishes have consolidated for Faith Formation and bulletins. It is unknown whether the three parishes will have to share finances in the event of a merger. At least one more representative from St. Thomas is needed.

Fr. Merritt, Fr. Felicjan, and Susie Gallo also attended the Oct. 19 meeting.

The age of the diocesan priests is a key concern, as a majority of the Diocese of Rochester's diocesan priests are age 70 or older. Another key concern is churches' finances.

It will take work with priest councils and other committees before decisions are made. More research on finances, attendance, and buildings is also needed.

More representation from parishioners who regularly attend Mass at St. Thomas is needed.

Meeting announcements will be posted in bulletins. The next meeting will take place at 3 p.m. on Nov. 17 at St. Mary Magdalene, followed by a Dec. 15 meeting at a time and location to be determined.

#### Church Environment

The CCBT Building and Grounds committee will meet on Nov. 7. The roof at St. Mary Magdalene will be discussed.

The sound equipment at St. Thomas has been replaced.

Paul Statskey noted external lighting issues at St. Mary Magdalene. The external lights are activated by a photoelectric sensor, but a switch is installed in the cellar closet to enable the lights to be deactivated for maintenance purposes. Additionally, the lights at St. Mary Magdalene were not coming on at dusk. A person had unknowingly shut off the light switch, which has since been turned back to “on.” The external lights are now working properly.

#### Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA)

The TV for the Diocese of Rochester’s CMA film, as well as the CMA packets, are both ready. There will be a presentation at St. Mary Magdalene on Oct. 29 and a presentation at St. Thomas on Oct. 30.

Seventeen people, as of Oct. 20, have donated \$2,770 to CMA. It was reported that CMA data gets updated on Tuesdays and Fridays, and that 50 percent of overages come back to the parish.

#### Goals for 2022-2023

Screening the second season of “The Chosen” was discussed as a Lenten activity. Fr. Merritt noted that he is planning to host a series of presentations on the Eucharistic revival in Clyde and Newark; he will also check the schedule to see if one of the presentations planned for Clyde could be held at CCBT.

**Closing Prayer:** The Pastoral Council Prayers were led by Mary Krehling.

The meeting was adjourned at around 7:30 p.m. The next meeting will take place at 6 p.m. on Nov. 17 at St. Mary Magdalene.

The draft minutes have been submitted via email on Oct. 28 by Dan Durocher, with requests for additions, changes, and deletions by the end of the day on Nov. 2.

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Karen Kaindl and seconded by Paul Statskey.

The approved minutes were respectfully submitted to Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity Pastoral Council, Marie Smith, Mary Capone, Bev Dulmage, and Kathy Schrader on Dec. 2, 2022.