

Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity  
Jan. 19, 2023 Minutes

Present: Fr. Michael Merritt, Kathy DeMass, Mary Krehling, Dan Durocher, Paul Statskey, Cathy Immerman, Jill Lee, Karen Kaindl, and Eileen Bielemeier

Absent: Fr. Felicjan Sierotowicz

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. and the opening prayer was led by Paul Statskey.

### **Old Business**

#### Pastoral/Social/Parish Ministries

- The parish recently did an “Adopt a Family” during the Christmas season and helped another family pay rent.
- Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity (CCBT) continues to assist with Family Promise of Wayne County and is helping two families who do not have Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Marie Smith is spearheading financial help.
- Fr. Merritt spoke to Dave VanHanehan, who will be speaking to Jill Lee about a February children’s event.
- Discussion was also held regarding the parish social ministry team.
- The parish’s book group is now up to 14 members.
- Coffee hour at St. Thomas in Red Creek is going well, and the dinner hour at St. Mary Magdalene in Wolcott went well on Jan. 7, with pizza served and Fr. Felicjan attending the dinner hour. Twenty-two people attended the dinner hour in November and December 2022. It was announced that the Feb. 4 dinner hour would be scaled back.
- Discussion was held on the men’s group. Paul Statskey said the group is making steps toward returning but he is cautiously optimistic.
- There was also discussion about the efforts to launch a Caring Ministry to share cards at nursing homes. St. Joseph the Worker Parish has distributed cards to parishioners at such facilities as Wayne County Nursing Home and Demay Living Center. At CCBT the church would pay for postage. The pastoral council will seek out absent parishioners. Helping parishioners who are hospitalized will be a different matter and the pastoral council will ask about praying for parishioners. Karen Kaindl could give an address book and write the cards. However, non-councilmembers can be part of this ministry.

#### Future Planning Committee/Merger

- The committee will meet at 3 p.m. on Feb. 9 in Clyde.
- Responses to the survey, which were disseminated at Christmas masses, are under review. The distribution of the surveys at Christmas masses was criticized by some.
- It was discussed that all parishes are struggling and some church properties will have to be alienated. However, this does not mean these properties cannot be recommissioned.

#### Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA)

- CCBT reached its goal on Jan. 13. The goal was \$16,000 but as of the meeting, the parish had raised approximately \$16,029.

- Discussion was held on thank you notes to donors. A meeting to work on thank you notes was tentatively scheduled for 10 a.m. on Jan. 28 at St. Thomas and Kathy DeMass, Paul Statskey, Karen Kaindl, Cathy Immerman, and Eileen Bielemeier will work on the notes. The group may need 60 to 100 notes.

#### 2023 Goals

- “Catechism in a Year” has been a success so far in 2023.

#### Bulletin

- Kathy DeMass will check with Rosemary Seymour about how to fill space in the bulletin.

#### Troubled Pregnancies

- Eileen Bielemeier has researched local groups and the next steps will take place in March.
- Jan. 22 marks the 50th anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* decision, which was an important talking point.
- It is important for the group to support individuals facing a troubled pregnancy supports those individuals after the baby is born.
- Paul Statskey offered to bring in resources from North Rose-Wolcott (NR-W) Central School District.

#### Advent and Christmas

- Both priests sent a letter to the editor of Lakeshore News to get the word out about Christmas masses.
- Jill Lee put a poster in the clothing center in Wolcott.
- Forty-two candles were collected at St. Thomas and 13 were collected at St. Mary Magdalene during the Advent and Christmas season and discussion was held on what to do with candles for Memorial Day weekend. Kathy DeMass will check with Fr. Felicjan regarding donations for candles.

#### **New Business**

#### Lent

- Mary Krehling received an email from Hallow to see if the church would like a banner to hang for Lent.
- Fr. Merritt is planning on for two presentations at St. Michael's in either Newark or Lyons and two more lectures at either St. John the Evangelist in Clyde or St. Mary Magdalene. The first lecture will be centered on the foreshadowing of the Eucharist in the Old Testament while the second presentation will be centered on the Eucharist in the New Testament. The presentations will be held on March 7, 13, 21, and 27.
- It was discussed whether to screen Season Two of “The Chosen.” That will be discussed on Jan. 28.
- CCBT reported no inquiries for RCIA. Only one RCIA has been made at St. Joseph the Worker parish and two at St. Michael's. To bring back RCIA, the priests may have to send another letter to the editor in the future. Team building will have to be the first step of revitalizing the RCIA program at CCBT and St. Joseph the Worker parish.

#### Holy Hour and Diocesan News

- An email had been sent about the Holy Hour at Sacred Heart Cathedral and March for Life. CCBT will have to do better with publicizing diocesan news.

### Other Comments

- Paul Statskey asked for the pastoral council's feedback on NR-W Central School District as he is a member of NR-W's board of education. He also spoke about a four-chaplain American Legion ceremony.

Adjournment.

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

The minutes have respectfully been submitted to the two priests, the pastoral council members, Marie Smith, Kathy Schrader, Katie Childs, Bev Dulmage, and Mary Capone.