

Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity Pastoral Council Minutes
March 16, 2023

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

Absent: Fr. Felician Sierotowicz.

Following the opening prayers, which were led by Jill Lee, the meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Old Business

Pastoral/Parish/Social Ministries Update

- The first Men's Group meeting since the COVID-19 pandemic will take place at St. Thomas in Red Creek on March 27. Fourteen members have committed to coming to the meeting. Members are encouraged to bring their bibles.
- Social Ministry is planning 15 ham dinners this Easter for those in need.
- There will be a Family Promise dinner on April 24. Marie Smith will send an email to volunteers.
- Caring Ministry has been busy working on mass cards and cards for parishioners and nearby families.
- The book group is on pace to finish their book by Easter.

Troubled Pregnancies

- Karen Kaindl shared information on Monroe County agencies and will pass the information on to Eileen Bielemeier.
- Paul Statskey has reached out to counselors at North Rose-Wolcott (NR-W) Central School District for resources.
- Eileen Bielemeier spoke to a Diocese of Rochester representative about resources. She, Paul Statskey, and Rosemary Seymour continue to help prevent abortions and help women facing troubled pregnancies after their children are born.

Future Planning/Committee Merger

- About 40 people showed up for the March 13 pastoral planning town hall meeting at St. Mary Magdalene in Wolcott. The next town hall meeting is set for March 21 at St. John the Evangelist in Clyde.
- It appears that the diocese may assign one priest to sections of Wayne County. Sixty percent of the priests in the Diocese of Rochester are 70 years of age or older. However, the final steps of pastoral planning may be decided by the diocese's next bishop. The diocese may take a "graceful degradation" approach.
- The next steps in pastoral planning may be shared after Easter.

Lent and Easter 2023

- Fr. Michael Merritt's presentations on the Eucharist have been well attended. These discussions run for about an hour. The next presentations will focus on the role of the Eucharist in the New Testament. Karen Kaindl, Kathy DeMass, Cathy Immerman, Eileen Bielemeier, and Jill Lee have volunteered to bring refreshments to the next discussions.

The next discussion will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on March 21 at St. Mary Magdalene. Announcements will be made at masses on March 18 and 19.

- The first two screenings of “The Chosen” were held at St. Thomas. These viewings are open to anyone from the St. Joseph the Worker Parish, which spans Lyons, Clyde, and Savannah; and St. Michael’s Church in Newark, or anyone from nearby communities.

Parish Picnic

- Paul Statskey announced that he will take care of parking for the picnic, which will be held at Fair Haven Beach State Park at noon on July 23.
- The planning committee for the picnic will consist of Eileen Bielemeier, Dan Durocher, Kathy DeMass, Mary Krehling, and Cathy Immerman. However, this committee is open to anyone wanting to help with the picnic and not just pastoral council members. The first committee meeting will take place at 6:30 p.m. on April 17.

Volunteers for Church Upkeep at St. Thomas

- Regina Lunkenheimer has put together a shoveling schedule for snow removal at St. Thomas.
- A meeting focused on cleaning at St. Thomas is upcoming.

Recruiting New Members for Pastoral Council

- Two of Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity’s (CCBT) pastoral council members will not be back for 2023-2024, so CCBT’s pastoral council will plan for two vacancies. An official nomination will have to come in April.
- CCBT’s bylaws state that couples cannot serve on a pastoral council together, but CCBT will check with the Diocese of Rochester to see if the parish can waive that bylaw.

New Business

Good Friday and Easter

- Good Friday services will take place at noon at St. Mary Magdalene.
- The Easter Vigil service held on the Saturday before Easter Sunday will take place at 7:30 p.m. on April 8 at St. John the Evangelist.
- There will be an Easter Sunday service at 8 a.m. on April 9 at St. Thomas. Additionally, an Easter Sunday service will take place at 10:30 a.m. on April 9 at St. Mary Magdalene.

Van Trips

- Discussion was held on whether the CCBT pastoral council should sponsor a van trip. Among the possible destinations were the shrine at Stockbridge, Mass.; the cathedral in Rochester; the shrine in Oswego; and trips to the movies.

The closing prayer was led by Jill Lee.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jill Lee and seconded by Paul Statskey.

The minutes have been sent to Fr. Felicjan Sierotowicz, Fr. Michael Merritt, Kathy Schrader, Katie Childs, Marie Smith, Bev Dulmage, Mary Capone, and CCBT’s pastoral council members.