

Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity Pastoral Council Minutes
May 18, 2023

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

Absent: Fr. Felician Sierotowicz, Paul Statskey, Karen Kaindl

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. followed by an opening prayer by Eileen Bielemeier.

Old Business

Pastoral and Parish Ministries

- The most recent Men's Group meeting was in April.
- The Book Group has finished their book and plans to view the movie "Apparition Hill" on June 2.
- Several key members of the Social Ministry team are in Israel. The Family Promise dinner went well. The Social Ministry team plans to work on meeting those who are homeless. A diaper collection is still in the works. Frank Capozzi is helping work on a grant to help the diaper center at the clothing center.
- Three Caring Ministry cards have been sent as of May 18.
- The Troubled Pregnancies committee consisting of Eileen, Paul, and Rosemary Seymour have continued to meet.
- The final dinner hour of the season at St. Mary Magdalene in Wolcott will be held on June 3, and may very well be picnic food. Dinner hour will be on hiatus until October. There were questions about billing for coffee hour at St. Thomas in Red Creek now that Bayside Grocery has new owners.

Future Planning

- The meeting previously scheduled for May 17 to discuss the town hall meetings never happened.
- Three objectives will have to be hit before a final decision is made regarding the future of the cluster, but only one milestone has been met. The next steps in the process will be financial forecasting based on what may happen if churches close.
- The priests will not be going anywhere, so projections will have to be completed this summer.
- The presbyteral council will not meet until September.
- A final merger may not happen until the bankruptcy filing ends.
- One consolidated bulletin has been completed, and a possible final website is in the works.

Parish Picnic

- The planning committee for the picnic continues to meet.

Pastoral Council Membership

- Eileen Bielemeier and Jill Lee have reached out to potential pastoral councilmember candidates. Eileen was unsuccessful in encouraging a candidate to join the pastoral council, while Jill said her candidates have not given an answer about joining.
- A “want ad” in the bulletin may be needed, so Kathy DeMass plans to talk with Kathy Schrader regarding announcements. Fr. Merritt will ask about pastoral council members at masses and will need to have a presentation on June 3 and 4. This would be done toward the end of mass.

Move to St. Jude

- Kathy Schrader said an announcement confirming the move will be in the bulletin. Kathy DeMass will ask Kathy Schrader to help spread the word about the move. Fr. Merritt said he would make announcements on June 3 and 4.

Vocation Videos

- Most of these videos are four or five minutes long. Fr. Merritt has prayer cards and is working on getting a vocation chalice for the churches in the cluster.

Van Trips

- A trip to Auriesville has been discussed and would take place from Oct. 20 to Oct. 22. An itinerary will need to be drafted, and Deacon Greg Kiley would have to be consulted.
- There are two drivers for two vans.

New Business

Bishop Barron Booklets

- Bishop Barron’s new “This is My Body” booklets are \$2 each. There is a need to help spread word about these booklets and the eucharistic revival. Kathy DeMass has volunteered to help pay for it and will call Kathy Schrader to have booklets ordered.

Flagpole at St. Thomas Cemetery

- Fr. Merritt will talk to Kipp or the Buildings and Grounds Committee about the flagpole at St. Thomas Cemetery.

Back of St. Thomas

- People have left strollers, beer bottles, and other items left in the area of the back of St. Thomas. The best option is to contact law enforcement. Kathy DeMass will call the Wayne County Office of the Sheriff and New York State Police.

Adjournment: 7:14 p.m.

A motion was made by Jill Lee, seconded by Kathy DeMass, to approve the minutes. The minutes have been sent to pastoral council members, the two priests, Kathy Schrader, Katie Childs, Mary Capone, Bev Dulmage, and Marie Smith.