

PILGRIM CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

May 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Kateri

ATTENDANCE

Fr. Joe Raeke, Deacon Jim Greer, Deacon Jonathon Jones, Liz Lauzon, Gini Maccaferri, Dave Noyes, Paul Poremski, Joan Ashman

Opening Prayer – Fr. Joe

REVIEW OF EVENTS

First Communion and Confirmations

First Communion Masses were held at the three churches, and all went well. There were two Confirmation ceremonies held at St. Kateri for young people from the three churches with Fr. Bill Joy officiating on behalf of the Archdiocese. During this year's Confirmation preparation, due to COVID and per the Archdiocese, strict adherence to attendance requirements were not imposed, but in the future, post-COVID, Fr. Joe anticipates more robust expectations re: class attendance, Mass attendance, and service project hours for Confirmation candidates.

Merger Process

The merger process has proceeded smoothly and is going well; the merger is effective June 1 and our new parish name is Mary, Queen of Martyrs parish. Fr. Joe has gotten a call for advice and information from another pastor whose two churches are beginning the process.

NEWS TO SHARE

Retirements

Deacon Paul Coughlin is leaving Our Lady of Lourdes to move south. Peg Donaher is retiring as the Parish Secretary at St. Kateri at the end of July. Terry Curley is retiring from St. Peter's to focus on family matters. Linda Cedrone is retiring from Religious Education at Our Lady of Lourdes but will take on the bookkeeping responsibilities for the cemetery.

Changing Responsibilities

Donna Souza will be the Business Manager and Kathy Benton will be the Administrative Assistant for our new parish. Linda will take on bookkeeping responsibilities for the cemetery as noted above on a part-time basis.

Religious Education/Youth Ministry

Regina Sherman is leaving to accept another opportunity, which leaves a vacancy of Director of Religious Education for all three churches. It would be ideal to also have an assistant to this position who could oversee youth ministry and service projects. Candidates for these positions have been difficult to find and there was discussion about possible avenues to explore, e.g., contacting current DRE's/ Youth Ministers and others who may know someone. One issue is the high cost of living in Massachusetts,

which would be a deterrent to people who live elsewhere but would otherwise be great for the position. Please let Fr. Joe know if you know of anyone or have any other ideas. He is in the process of reaching out to several contacts.

Proposed Plan

- Office Hours:
St. Kateri: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Monday and Thursday
Our Lady of Lourdes: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Tuesday and Friday
St. Peter's: open Monday thru Friday, since St. Peter's has so much foot traffic
- Shared Phone System: the phone will follow and be answered by Kathy.
- One checking and one saving account will be used for the parish in order to bring everything together.

ST. KATERI ADDITION

Dave McGrath, St. Peter parishioner has been very helpful; Jeff Metcalfe is the architect; Bill Shaw the engineer will bring the plans to the Town for approval and permits, then the project will go out to bid. There will be one big hall with portable walls to be used when smaller rooms are needed. The church and the new addition will be sprinklered.

TWO SYNOD MEETINGS

Meetings will be held June 8 at OLOL and June 16 at St. Peter's. The acoustics at St. Kateri don't make it a good location for large gatherings. Parishioners are asked to attend to share their input for learning and support as part of the Synod on Synodality process.

Meredith Scott and Terri Greer met with Fr. Joe and several questions were developed to ask at the meetings, as the future of the Church is envisioned: Have family members and friends stopped going to church? How does that affect you? How do we go forward to talk to our friends and family? If we see ourselves as true disciples of Christ, how do we share our faith? What works for you and what doesn't? Meredith and Terri will capture the responses.

There was discussion about additional meetings with a specific focus, e.g. on divorced Catholics, and LGBT Catholics and family and friends. The objective is to break down walls and to be a welcoming community as Jesus wants us to be.

It would be a good idea to use technology, e.g., livestream, for meetings since some people may be hesitant or unable to come in person.

OTHER CONCERNS

The cemetery looks great!

Closing Prayer – Gini Maccaferri

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the Rectory at St. Peter's for dinner – please RSVP to Fr. Joe.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Ashman
Parish Pastoral Council Secretary