

Pastoral Council Meeting

January 19, 2023; 6:35 pm

Church of the Holy Spirit-Gloversville

In Attendance:

Father Matt Wetsel

Sal Giarrizzo

Lisa Stanyon

Don Stanyon

Richard Crane

Michael Long

Precy Clet

David Connolly

Michael Nichols

Mia Franko

- The meeting started at 6:35 pm with an opening prayer by Fr. Matt.
- Following prayer was the review of the minutes from the previous meeting. The last meeting with minutes available was held on October 20, 2022. The meeting mainly focused on photographing the Pastoral Council members in order to create a directory to post on both church websites and parish facebook pages.
- Father Matt moved to a brief recap of old business including the photo directory and web calendar. Father highlighted Mia Franko's work in creating and maintaining the website calendar. It is a good tool to help the parishioners keep up to date with meetings, activities, etc.
- Father continued the conversation to include new business and discussed an update letter that he sent out to finance council members, trustees, and the pastoral council earlier this month.  
The letter contains the temporary change of masses schedule for both parishes for the weekend of March 18th and 19th. Fr. Matt will be assisting with the Emmaus (Confirmation Preparation) Retreat that weekend and the office for the vicar for clergy will have an easier time finding coverage for three Masses instead of the usual four Masses per weekend. One of the main reasons for the change in the number of Masses that weekend is because most of the priests who provide coverage on the weekends are elderly and have a challenging time with saying four Masses per weekend.

In the letter, it was suggested that the regular masses at Holy Trinity at 8:00 am and 10:00 am will be combined into a single 9:00 am mass. The request for a temporary change of schedule during the Emmaus weekend was approved by the diocesan chancellor, Fr. Rutherford and the vicar general, Fr. Longobucco.

A discussion was held that talked about the future Mass needs of the linked parishes. The factors that need to be taken into consideration include attendance, collections, the timing and location of faith formation sessions, honoring the parishioners' wishes as best as possible, etc. There are tentative plans to consider a summer schedule starting in July (reducing the total number of Masses from four to three) and see if it would make sense to keep that schedule moving forward. The parishioners from both communities will be given ample notice regarding the temporary adjustment to the Mass schedule for the weekend of March 18th/19th as well as the possible summer schedule.

- Father announced the Linked Parish Fun Fest Planning Meeting – Weds, Jan 25th, 6:30 pm at Holy Trinity Parish Hall. Then asked everyone at the meeting for any additional suggestions or concerns during the round table.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm with a closing prayer followed by the announcement of the next meeting. The next meeting will be Thursday, February 16th at Holy Trinity Church Hall at 6:30 pm

Minutes submitted by Precy Clet reviewed by Father Matt