

HOLY CROSS PARISH

A welcoming, vibrant community committed to growing in and sharing the love of Jesus

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Date: January 12, 2025

Present: Matthew Tabone, Marguerite Webster, Carol Tyson, Kerry L Mess, Chris Mess

Open with Jubilee prayer:

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever, Amen.

I. Council Minutes

- A. Last meeting: Approval of minutes (November 10) [approved](#)
- B. October minutes sent for posting; will send November's (once approved) **today**

II. Meeting Items

A. Parish Project Plan – **We've done some great work!**

1. Milestone #2 (welcoming campaign) – check in [Goal: 70 people at mass ea. wk.]
 - a. *Daily Star* – we're in!
 - b. Do we want to change ad in *Wharton Valley Gazette*? [OK now, maybe for Easter, etc.](#)
[Hoping for an Easter service.](#)
 - c. Facebook page / Flyer for *PennySaver*?
[Carol L hasn't found anything. Matthew will try contacting Facebook to see if we can take it over \(or we start over\).](#)
2. Milestone #3 (greeting campaign) – check in
 - a. Marguerite: Greeters [Jen S, Marguerite, Pat K, Joe](#) – put request in bulletin
 - b. Kerry: Need counters! [Pat K, Berry S](#)
3. Milestone #4 (fixing pews) – [replace with something lighter?](#)
[Possibility: Detach from pews, felt underneath to be able to push/pull – revisit for next meeting](#)
4. Council members – terms/autumn call?
[Bylaws? Govern trustees \(max 6 years\), but not Council members](#)
[Continue to invite; begin in August: announce we'll be doing a drive in September for members](#)
[Cards in pews for September](#)

B. Four events for year - ?

1. Lenten meal(s)? [See below. Friday, March 14](#)

2. Vacation Bible School
Reach out to area Christian Churches for discussion about VBS (Kerry will start thread)
 3. Rotary garage sale day – 2nd/3rd week July
On same day as Rotary sale Have done in the past – put up a tent
 - a. For garage sale
 - b. Church people make Baskets (movie stuff, kitchen, kids, etc.) – sell raffle tickets
 - c. Bake sale
 4. Parish Picnic Saturday, June 14, 11a.m. – 1 p.m.
 5. Autumn event?
- C. Lenten Planning – Do we want to do a meal? Friday, March 14 for Lenten Fish Fry
Need to get in Penny Saver – Submit by Wednesday, February 26
1. Ash Wednesday: March 5
 2. Holy Week
 - a. Palm Sunday: April 13 (Passover – April 12)
 - b. Holy Triduum: April 17-19
 - c. Easter Sunday: April 20
We'd like a mass at Holy Cross: Do we need to contact/connect with an order to get a priest? Talk to Fr. Chris.

III. New Business

- A. When is our food pantry month? Reach out to Fr. Lytle/Jen to find out.
- B. Cards by candles for people to write intentions (Business card size) – will include check box to put in bulletin
Will put basket next to candles
- C. Kerry: Change Faith Formation in bulletin to Matthew Tabone
- D. Pope Francis's suggestions for the Jubilee Year (Kerry completely forgot to include in agenda! For discussion next meeting):
 1. Make a pilgrimage to the Albany Cathedral and have a meal with the bishop
 2. Forgive: Sacrament of reconciliation each month
 3. Do penance: On Fridays, abstain from meat – fast from futile distractions – social media, TV, etc.
 4. Perform spiritual and corporal works of mercy
 5. Say the Jubilee Prayer daily
 6. Have a Jubilee Drive to help the needy
 7. Anchor of Hope: Make a poster of an anchor to remind us of how an anchor keeps us steady and secure in troubled waters.

IV. Upcoming

- A. Rosary after mass next Sunday, January 19
- B. **Next meeting: Sunday, February 23, after mass**