

Holy Trinity Church Parish Pastoral Council  
Meeting Minutes April 19, 2017

In attendance: Jim Thessin, Patrick Browne, Father Kevin Gillespie, Kirk Willison, Diane Oakley, Margaret Miller, Ellen Toups, Linda Arnold, Cecilia Boudreau, Christopher Jolly Hale

Not present: Vince Dennis

Guests: Paula McCabe

#### Pastor's Report

Easter services included 10 masses and several events all of which were well attendance throughout Holy Week. Triduum was lovely.

The Cheikho Family is continuing to settle into life in America. The children are now in school, and the father's disability is less severe than originally thought which is encouraging news for him in finding a job here in the US.

Several parishioners have been recognized in various publications such including:

- Ken Bagstad's article in "America Magazine".
- Karen Luowski's article regarding the mid west prison executions.
- The Hoya featured a glowing article about HTC and their support of the Cheikho Family.

Interfaith activities – Parishioners will be going on a field trip to a Mosque in Maryland in April and HTC will be participating in a breaking of fast for Ramadan in June.

Lead by the Jesuits at Georgetown University and Father Tim Kesicki a formal apology to the family members was extended by the Jesuits for past involvement with owning and selling slaves. It was a powerful, passionate and moving experience for all in attendance. President DeGioia also spoke at ceremonies on April 17. One hundred family members of former slaves were in attendance along with many others. It was a day of grace, for moving forward and reconciliation. In memory of each of these individuals a plaque inscribed with the first names of all 272 slaves was placed at the foot a tree planted in their honor. This was a move forward.

Holy Rood Cemetery. Discussions with Georgetown University continue so that the Parish might build and maintain a columbarium. The last burial was in 1985.

The Knights of Malta have approached Father Gillespie to support and become involved with the Children's Birthing Center in Bethlehem. This is on the horizon, and we will be giving it further consideration.

By-Laws – The Council is considering edits and updates to the Council's Constitution and By-laws. A full markup of proposed edits was circulated just before the meeting.

Council members are requested to send edits to Cecilia Boudreau by April 28.

Margaret Miller gave an update of activities of the Elections Committee.

Ellen Toups gave us an update of the all activities of Social Justice committee.

February and March meeting minutes were approved.

The meeting closed with a prayer.

Minutes approved May 17, 2017.