

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
February 20,2023, 7:30 pm Flavin Room**

PPC members present:

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| Fr. Jerry Boland | X | Patti Lawler | X | Mike Wycklendt | X | Brian Callahan | X |
| Tom O'Brien | X | Bridget Baumstark | X | Gretchen Zagzebski | X | Tom Huffman | X |
| Mark Cullum | X | Steve Schmidt | X | John Simons | X | Sandy McBreen | X |
| Sara Carsten | X | John Nicolau | | Mick Bajakian | X | Ben Parma | |

PPC Mission: OLPH is a family of believers in Christ who strive to live according to His teachings. We take as our mission in the world the living out of the Gospel of Jesus.

Opening Prayer offered by Tom Huffman

Approval of Minutes

The January meeting minutes were approved.

Pastor's Update

Father shared with us about his Mission trip to Puerto Rico with Catholic Extension. He traveled with a panel of pastors and visited projects that are being supported. They continue to need our support in the poor areas. The earthquake and Hurricane Fiona has left massive destruction in PR. Puerto Rican people continue to be optimistic that they will survive this. Puerto Rico is the oldest Diocese in the Western Hemisphere and has the oldest cathedral. Father would love to deepen our relationship with OLPH in Puerto Rico in the future. One thousand church-related buildings have been identified as devastated and need reconstruction. Catholic Extension and FEMA are working together to restore these buildings. Catholic Extension is also paying for seminary education of students to become priests and the education of lay people to help in the rural areas. Forty people have earned Masters in Divinity degrees – mostly women.

Archdiocesan Survey Update: Beginning Ash Wednesday there will be a link sent to our parishioners and in the bulletin for people to complete a 10–15-minute survey. We will need to keep encouraging people to participate including those active in our parish as well as those who are not attending church. There will be no mailings – the survey is all electronic and we are hoping for greater than 30% participation threshold response. We want to meet people where they are without judgement. What is working within our parish and what is not working will be

investigated. Survey results will provide diocese and parish level updates, and are expected to be published 3-4 months after the survey closes on Palm Sunday. There is also a second survey to be completed by all diocesan priest the results of which will be published in a report. This Survey is being funded by Lilly Foundation and is being piloted in 15 Dioceses in the United States. This is an opportunity to have more substantive conversations about what is really happening in the greater church. Karen Daniels will be our Project Coordinator at OLPH and the final reports will be public.

Father is meeting with other pastors who have been through Renew Our Church and Building a new Reality. Many of the changes will be small group focused and Parish life will be built around small group models. Father is happy that we already have great meeting spaces and hopes our future will be about building relationships from feeling anonymous to more personal.

Capital Projects update: The Playdium has been identified as the first project including replacement of the roof, replacement of the HVAC system, installation of an elevator, and resurfacing of the gym floor. The bid for this project has been approved by the Archdiocese. The Playdium will be closed for the summer and preordering of supplies has begun. The next project will be McDonnell Hall and its HVAC system, sound and lighting system. The kitchen and bathrooms will be updated and a permanent sanctuary will be included. This project will take more time and will not be done by fall. Final drawings are being completed. Money from the Capital Campaign and a generous donation from the Thoelecke family will make this possible. Replacement of the carpet in Church is to follow. Two additional projects related to enhancements to the Glenview Road entrance and renovation of Centennial Hall are lower priorities and may need to be scaled down or deferred

State of Illinois Clerical sexual misconduct report: The State of Illinois will most likely release this report in late March. The Archdiocese has put much effort into trying to understand this issue and prevent it from happening in the future. Father Boland assured us that OLPH takes child safety very seriously. He participated in a webinar with other priests and stated that the report will be released in 6 chapters. Each chapter represents a Diocese and all Dioceses are on the same page and are cooperating together. They do not know what the tone of the final report will be.

Parish Budgeting Season: OLPH has begun to look at the next fiscal year and have begun meeting with staff members. They anticipate a 5% increase in salaries and hope for a preliminary budget by mid-April.

Father stressed the importance of the Ministry Appreciation Mass and Reception as ALL Ministry participants play an important role in our parish and this recognition is important.

Ministry Appreciation Mass Update:

Sara Carsten reported that we presently have 120 RSVPs and is looking at a final number near 175 attendees. Sara reviewed set up and will correspond with the PPC to make sure all roles are covered for the event.

Ministry Community Update-Human Concerns:

Sandy McBreen had the ministries write a synopsis and update of what has been happening within their ministries. She read and shared updates from Knit for Life, Catholic Charities, Creation Care, Little by Little, the Meal Ministry and Ministry of Care. It was enlightening for the whole PPC.

Deanery Update:

Tom O'Brien reported on the February 16th Deanery meeting. He emphasized that Cardinal Cupich is planning on a September 2023 Ministry Day to bring clergy and laity together. He shared that several PPCs are not meeting in some parishes and is not sure of the future structure of Deaneries. Next meeting is April 19.

New business – Stations of the Cross

The PPC has agreed to volunteer for the coordination of one Stations of the Cross during Lent. John Simons will organize our efforts and let us know that our date is March 17th. He will send out an email to see who is interested in helping out. Sara Carsten, Tom O'Brien and possibly Jacquie O'Brien have volunteered.

Closing Prayer offered by Tom Huffman