

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2023, 7:30 pm Flavin Room**

PPC members present:

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	
Sara Carsten	X	John Nicolau		Mick Bajakian	X	Ben Parma	X

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 O'Brien

Approval of Minutes

The March meeting minutes were approved.

Eucharistic Revival Discussion: Dave Ludden presented a comprehensive overview of the National Eucharistic Revival plan which will take place over 3 years. There has been a continued decline in Mass attendance and the National Initiative hopes to address this and bring back the lost sheep to our church community. A 2019 survey found that only 1/3 of Catholics believe that the Eucharist is the actual Body of Christ. How can we address the 2/3 of Catholics that don't believe this. Nationwide, the Bishops have agreed to the National Eucharistic Revival. The Revival wants to help Catholics understand the great mystery of the Eucharist- our belief that God is present in the Eucharist. John 6 addresses this – for the life of the world! Why now? The church needs healing and the world needs the church as it is hurting. This Revival is a grass roots movement and will take time. It is a 3-year movement (Diocesan, Parish and Individual levels) - 6/22-6/23 is the Year of the Diocesan Revival which is the Bishops/Priests level. 6/23-6/24 is the Year of the Parish Revival where church individuals work on transformation of themselves and reengage in the Eucharist. The idea is “You can't give and share what you don't have.” 7/24 is the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, IN. The last congress was 83 years ago. Over 100,000 people are expected to attend. 7/24-7/25 is the National Year of the Mission. As Catholics have all been formed and grown, we are then sent out to gather the wandering sheep. 2025 has been named the Jubilee Year by Pope Francis. This whole revival is a process not a program and continues... We will be provided with playbooks for each year. Father Jim Barrett will work with our Parish and has speaker ideas for the next year.

Youth Ministry Update: Zoe Sundstrom with Father Patrick Kizza began by saying that it takes time to kindle relationships with our teenagers. The mission is to dynamically engage teens on the Church campus through worship and service. Service activities have drawn the most youth after 5 pm Mass. Some youth ministry activities include: Daily Mass and Donuts, the Dunk Tank, decorating the church, Lenten Retreat, kayaking, Top Golf and the Meals Ministry. The seminarians have been quite engaging with the youth. The youth ministry is made up of 7th/8th graders, and GBS, Regina, Loyola, and Niles North high school students. Zoe listed the youth's passion for decorating the church at the holidays and creation of 180 brown bag lunches as a "High point". Two "low points" include the fact that parishioners aren't aware of the Youth Ministry and the work that is needed in healing the divide between Parish school and Religious Education attendees. There are plans to take a group of teens to the NCYC 11/16/23-11/19/23. There is a parent meeting planned. Youth numbers at the meeting average about 6-12 teens. PPC needs to talk more about Youth Ministry. Father Kizza concluded by sharing a quote: Young trees make the forest thick!

Pastor's Update:

Holy Week/Easter Recap: Father was so pleased and energized to report that the Masses throughout the week were full – some with standing room only. He thanked everyone involved for all of their efforts.

Archdiocesan Survey Update: Over 700 parishioners have completed the survey at OLPH. We are hoping for the results in a final report at the end of the summer. There are 24 other Dioceses nationwide that are also participating in this survey and we will be able to see these results as well as our own.

Capital Projects update: The project should begin the day after the last day of school and the Playdium and pool will be closed until school resumes in the Fall. The refinishing of the Playdium floor may need to be deferred if it cannot be completed by the first day of school in the Fall. The 2nd project is the replacement of the church carpeting and selection of carpet and planning is in progress.

State of Illinois Clerical sexual misconduct report: It was noted that the Diocese in Baltimore, MD release their report during Holy Week. He expects an imminent release of the Chicago Diocese report and says that our Diocese has a communication plan already in place.

May Meeting (PPC/Financial Council): This is an important meeting where we need to discuss and find a balance between Parish life and finances. Father would like to continue a discussion of our security process on campus. We've made great progress with recommendations of increased cameras, outdoor speakers a security persona and reinstallation of land lines in many rooms. We have a much safer campus today.

Parish Pastoral Council Recruitment: Mark reported that Terry Luc will be running more testimonials from the PPC in the bulletin. We will be filling positions for 4 members who will be going off the PPC- Steve Schmidt, Mike Wycklendt, Tom O'Brien, and John Nicolau. Interviews will begin in May with new members beginning July 1. Mark also reported that the PPC for 2023-2024 will be: Sara Carsten – Chair, Ben Parma – Vice Chair, and Mick Bajakian – Secretary.

Ministry Community Update – Delayed

New business: None

Closing Prayer offered by Tom Huffman