

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council Meeting/Finance Council
Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2023, 7:30 pm Hickey Hall**

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		John Simons	X	Sandy McBreen	X
Sara Carsten	X	John Nicolau	X	Mick Bajakian		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 Ben Parma

Sara welcomed all members of the PPC and the Finance Council and introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes

The April meeting minutes were approved.

Pastor's Report:

Father Boland reported on a number of topics. May has been a busy month with about 160 children receiving their First Holy Communion and 170 young adults that were confirmed.

The last Covid restrictions have been lifted in the Diocese. Father is grateful for both Councils and their support to him during the past 3 years. We are a strong parish and the power of the Spirit can be felt in many aspects of parish life.

We need to anticipate the many challenges our church will face in the future. 1. The Diocesan wide survey results should be released mid-late June. 2. The Eucharistic Revival is ramping up – How do we bring new energy? 3. Public safety on our campus remains an important issue that we are tackling. 4. We are beginning several major capital improvement projects on our campus which will affect our day-to-day functions until completed.

Father Boland finished by acknowledging that our Parish is a thriving parish with strong governance structures in place. We are all the eyes and ears of what is happening at OLPH for Father Boland!

Parish Pastoral Council Report:

Mark Cullum read the PPC purpose statement from our bylaws and the provided some PP highlights from the past year. In the Fall, we had a very successful Parish summit “Better Together: with Father Michael Sparrow as our keynote speaker. In late February, we hosted our Ministry Appreciation Mass at the 5 pm Saturday night Mass to thank the many ministries at OLPH followed by a very nice reception. Meet and Greet gatherings were implemented at various members homes open to their neighborhood and these will continue. PPC focuses on supporting about 60 ministries and our members connect with them and provide updates to the PPC for their communities.

Finance Council Report:

Bob Michels stated that the council meets monthly to look at financial reports/balance sheets while managing assets and cutting expenses as needed. May Lynne provides parish finance reports etc. He mentioned the need for continuity on the council.

Bob reviewed the balance sheet which is strong. Collections over the years have decreased as they have this past year. He stated that we will be under budget this year. Church attendance is declining with 20% of the parishioners giving 80% of the dollars. He discussed how we can capitalize on the strength of our programs to increase contributions. Bob stated that with the consolidation of school/parish finances, it has improved the approval of procedures and the tracking of expenses. They can track the expense of two school security guards, technology expenses and the added teacher retention bonus of \$5000. The school is strong.

The Needy Family Fund is monitored as the funds are part of the parish. Expenses have decreased as the funds are managed better. There are free clinics being utilized for healthcare, child support and car repair expenses are being paid directly. The Finance Council asked the NFF to inform donors how their money is being spent. Sister Anna is a social worker who works here 3 days/week. She works with Catholic Charities to utilize their existing services.

A Stewardship Program continues to increase Sunday collections which are the life blood of the parish. Inflation has affected collections as costs are up. The capital improvement projects are costly. People want their money to go to OLPH. Only 10% goes to the Diocese. About 33% is from the planned offering.

Closing Prayer offered by Steve Schmidt