

## **OLPH Parish Pastoral Council**

### **Meeting Minutes ~ February 20, 2017**

**Approval of Minutes for January, 2017.**

#### **Opening Prayer**

**Update on Convent Renovation Plans** - Welcome to special guests – Nancy Schwider and Julie Ruchniewicz. Visioning Committee presented thoughts from the Visioning Committee. PPC had a dialogue about these ideas and how they tie into the To Teach Who Christ is campaign.

**Ministry Appreciation Mass/Reception** - Invite will be sent shortly. Questions can be sent to Mike Hood. Set-up at 2pm. Mass at 6pm. Reception to follow. We want to pay special attention to environmental concerns. Invite will be sent Feb 21 or 22. Work to have signage at even updating people on what we are doing from a Transformation/Capital Campaign perspective.

**Transformation Mini-Summit** - Mini-Summit was held in Hickey Hall and was a tremendous success! The team did a phenomenal job. Event brought on a great deal of momentum. Many things are moving along at great speed – especially from a catechesis side. Many events are under way throughout the next several months. Bulletin communications are scheduled. Pizza hospitality night on March 5<sup>th</sup> is planned. Actively looking for a Youth Member to participate on this team. Also looking for a graphics member to help with a logo. Website is being populated with transformation information as well. Met with Melissa (new communications coordinator) to talk through bulletin entries.

**Youth Ministry Update** - Making great progress with Youth Minister efforts. Several candidates have completed phone interviews, with a first in-person interview planned. Would be nice for the Youth Minister to participate in the design and function of the Youth Ministry space.

**Parish Public Safety Plan** - Plan in progress. Likely to take place past-Easter.

**Parish Communication Strategy** - Melissa is a replacement to Natalie. There is a larger group working to plan out the structure/infrastructure our video and written content and work with the new communications coordinator to make this available for all. Follow-up meeting will take place to regroup and talk through next steps.

Regarding The City, Fr alerted folks that the PPC has concerns regarding the usage of our technology – including our website and The City. All of these components need to be thoroughly thought through and a plan needs to be developed.

Hoping to have Melissa attend April meeting to hear about PPC thoughts on all vehicles and modes of communication.

**Finance Report** - Working to fill the gap when Nancy leaves. Restructuring reporting so things all go through Father. We want an overall Finance/Operations Director – parish and school. The responsibilities Nancy had for facilities will be transitioned to Mike.

Issues concerning school subsidy, school reserves and other school finances are being reviewed by the Finance Council. School enrollment has been strong, leading to stable and strong school finances. Currently, the parish's subsidy is at 30% of parish revenues. Consideration is being given to reducing the subsidy over time to 25%, consistent with the archdiocese standard, depending on various factors, such as the current school enrollment, parish financial needs, and school financial needs.

To be eligible to obtain in-parish tuition rates, school families must contribute at least \$480 to the parish offertory yearly, unless there is a financial hardship or other special circumstances. Efforts are being made to ensure that all families obtaining in-parish tuition amounts are meeting the minimum general offertory requirement.

Due in part to Christmas falling on a Sunday this year, offertory collections for December this year were down from prior years. In addition, the number of families participating in the Planned Offering Program decreased this past fiscal year. In part due to these factors, the overall parish revenues are currently 5% lower than revenues at this time last year, and about 11% under budget. It is hoped that revenues in the coming months prior to the fiscal year-end will reduce the current shortfall against budget.

**Renew My Church** - The Cardinal had a meeting last week with all parishes. This effort is about vitality, new life and energy in our faith community. The goal is re-energizing all parishes. Teams will be formed for each parish so that we can all meet together and work together. Together we will be stronger.

Over Lent there are several initiatives that are exciting. Fr Hickey will do a prayer tasting. The Cardinal is asking for us to incorporate a period of silence during our Lenten Sundays – an extended period of prayer after Communion. Announcements will move to the beginning of the liturgy. Silence and solemnity will be more prominent. Collective grace in silence.

**Ministry Updates** - Engagement Committee is transitioning to new leadership and redefining themselves. Mini Summit has brought in new blood and invigorated this group.

RCIA has a retreat coming up. Fr Lara is asking for letters to candidates. We have 17 RCIA candidates this year. Easter Vigil will be a tremendous evening.

**Pastor's Report** - To Teach Who Christ is – we are at 92% of goal. Want 200 more people to participate to make goal. We'd like to fund all projects. Targeted various groups – previous donors, RE & School families. This will bring the campaign to a close.

Working on recycling efforts for Creation Care Ministry. Potential centralized supplies. Cost savings for buying in volume and makes a strong statement. Sunday after Easter will be a big weekend for this initiative.

Hickey Hall Dedication event needs to be scheduled. Might be able to coordinate this with Easter/Lent activities.

### **Closing Prayer**