

OLPH Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes, February 15, 2016

PPC members present: Greg Bedel, Fr. Boland, Fr. Lara, Kevin Boyle, Nancy Detlefsen, Shannon Dowdle, Mike Hood, Elizabeth Hoshaw, Dave Ludden, Bill McCabe, Mark McKinley, Bob Michels, Karen Navarre, Jim Riley, Julie Ruchniewicz

Opening Prayer: Jim Riley

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of January 18 were approved

Ministry Appreciation Mass: Bill thanked all for pitching in. He stated that an email will be sent soon for set-up time for the event. This should go quickly if all help.

Finance Council Update: Jim reported final results from December collections showed a 6 month deficient below budget but a strong January looks to have put the Parish close to budget as of the end of January. Christmas collections were on budget. The school net income is ahead of budget for the first 6 months. He reported that the Finance Committee has started the budgeting process for FY 2017. The Audit Report has been received by the Finance Committee. Nothing alarming was contained in the Report. The Parish Council and the Finance Committee will meet together in March.

Laudato Si Ministry: Mark reported that the agenda for the kick-off meeting on April 4, 2016 has been set. For three weeks the bulletin will alert parish members of the April meeting. All ages are encouraged to attend. The new ministry will discuss changing habits in church, home and work among other things. Cathy Lentz will attend the first meeting to assist how ideas can be incorporated in liturgies. The school and RE have been contacted to help with ideas. Shannon suggested that the Sharing Ministry be tapped. Dave added that we should remember that this new ministry was hatched from the Popes' Encyclical.

Communities Update: Shannon urged all PPC members to check in with ministry leaders either individually or as a group. Succession planning should still be a topic to discuss with ministry leaders. Dave added that it is important that we communicate term limits (when appropriate) with leaders so they don't feel like they have to have the job for a very long time. Shannon concluded that PPC members are to dig deep into their ministries and report back in April.

Deanery Questions Discussion: Julie explained the importance of us discussing the questions given to her from the Deanery about family and the church so she can report back to them at their next meeting. Discussion took place. Julie will report our thoughts to the Deanery on March 2.

Renew the Church Review: Shannon, Margie, Bill, Bob, Julie and Father Boland attended a meeting at St John Brebeuf the first week of February. Archbishop Cupich gave an overview of the state of the Catholic Church in all the Chicago area. Church vitality, demographics, pastor availability, and capital needs were discussed. It was noted that things will not happen overnight but over the next couple years.

Transformation Update: Father Boland reported that the first Transformation session was held on February 13 with over 60 parishioners attending. He reported that the facilitator told him after the meeting that he was impressed with the representation of parishioners present. It was noted that after each of the 12 sessions, there will be communication on the City and in the bulletin.

Pastor's Report: Father stated that it has been 1 month since the death of Tony (Max) Rivera. The job of Maintenance Director has been posted. This will be a difficult position to fill but there are 5 likely candidates being interviewed. Also Youth Minister Leaders are being interviewed with a hope to have one in place by July 1. Our refugee family is doing as well as can be expected. The children started a special school and the 14 year old is learning English very quickly. The Domestic Violence Task Force has met two times with about 25 attending the meetings. The Task Force is fortunate to have judges, social workers and defense attorneys on board. Finally Father spoke of the changes being made for the Sisters' residence. The actual work will start at the completion of the RE year.

Closing Prayer: Mike Hood