

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
December 12, 2022, 7:30 Rectory Dining Room**

**PPC members present:**

Fr. Jerry Boland	X	Patti Lawler	X	Mike Wycklendt		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	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 John Nicolau**

**Approval of Minutes**

The November meeting minutes were approved.

**Pastor's Update**

Father Jerry began by stating how helpful the PPC has been as he responds to the pandemic. Three members of the PPC have hosted Meet and Greets in their neighborhoods with fellow parishioners. In addition, Father Jerry attended a Meet and Greet at the Vi where 40 parishioners were happy to connect with OLPH! He would like to continue neighborhood Meet and Greets in the new year and discussed how we need to be open to honest feedback from Catholics about what their feelings/experiences are with the church.

The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary mass/celebration of the Sharing Ministry was a success! Father Jerry recognized how this ministry is a long-term part of our parish and part of its DNA! Priests and members of our Sharing parishes also participated in the mass and reception.

Advent/Christmas season preparations are in full swing. Reconciliation will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of December.

We are in the next phase of Renew My Church and there will be no structural changes to the Glenview/Northbrook grouping. Our goal is to build together the new reality of the church. We need to ask ourselves – What are we doing to build relationships within our

Glenview/Northbrook churches? Should we consider sharing resources such as Religious Education, Kairos and RCIA? A clergy shortage is coming – How do we continue to hear 400 confessions? What if no one is available for anointing of the sick? We need to get used to going to each other's churches. The Diocese has closed about 100 parishes in the last 3 years. We have to keep working at reconnecting our core group of parishioners who attend Mass. Parish programming in the future may be small group based for faith sharing for a more personal touch. All of this points to the need to invest in lay faith formation. It has been studied that young adults don't relate to large groups. By the February meeting, Father Jerry will have a better idea of what this next phase means. "We the people are the ambassadors of our faith in the community!"

Capital Projects update: The Playdium has been identified as the first project including replacement of the roof, HVAC issues resolution, installation of an elevator as the ramp is difficult for many, and replacement of the gym floor. Costs continue escalate. Plans are to close the Playdium for the summer. The next project will be McDonnell Hall and its HVAC system, sound and lighting system. The lower-level bathrooms will also be updated.

The question was raised as to the parking difficulties for our elderly/disabled parishioners due to the installation of the barriers during school hours. It has been difficult for Scripture study members and the Knit for Life group. We will need to audit the handicapped spaces and try to solve this issue.

### **Ministry Appreciation Mass planning:**

Sara Carsten is heading this project and after some discussion, it was decided that the Ministry Appreciation Mass would be held on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at the 5 pm mass with a reception to follow in McDonnell Hall. More details to follow – Sara will create a SignUp Genius to opportunities to help out.

### **Religious Education Update:**

The first RE Mass and Movie was nicely attended. Another event that had a lot of positive energy was the Spirit of Christmas Ornament making. There was a nice flow of people and Angela had good support – the Youth Group was helpful. Their next group event will be held in February.

### **Ministry Community Updates:**

Mark Cullum discussed the importance of our 60-70 church ministries and the PPC connection to them. Beginning in January, he would like each of the Ministry leads to present about a 5-minute update on their connection with the ministries at our PPC meeting. One focus could be to ask about the ministries' plan for leadership succession and ways we as a board can provide

support. Patti will create a SignUp Genius for PPC members to sign up for their presentation month.

**Financial Council Update:**

Bridget Baumstark stated that Catch Up Sunday was successful and helpful in meeting budgetary needs. There is a strong subcommittee on the council that is looking at creative ways to improve the financial shortcomings.

**Closing Prayer was offered by John Nicolau**