

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2023, 7:30 pm Flavin Room**

PPC members present:

Fr. Jerry Boland	X	Patti Lawler	X	Mike Crowe	X	Brian Callahan	X
Laura Roche	X	Bridget Baumstark	X	Gretchen Zagzebski	X	Tom Huffman	X
Mark Cullum	X	Kevin Dougherty	X	John Simons	X	Sandy McBreen	X
Sara Carsten	X	Katie King		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: Mark Cullum

Approval of Minutes: The October meeting minutes were approved.

Survey Results & Listening Session: Tom O'Brien

The next major milestone is putting a plan in place in response to the survey results. As a lead-in to this, we are looking for feedback across the Parish on the results of the survey to help determine our priorities moving forward. The listening sessions will be the place to do so. Sessions will involve 5-10 participants for around 1 hour. The PPC will be the first to engage in a listening session. Listening session feedback includes:

- How to engage younger generations
- How to get people engaged in the Parish and in their faith
- How to increase engagement in those who are already involved in more meaningful ways
- How do we connect church involvement with friendship/community
- Challenge with survey because the data does not come from younger generation
- One question to think about: Who else can we try to target with listening sessions to try to reach groups that were not as responsive to the survey
- The priorities will be used to determine the measurement
- How to increase involvement in scripture study and adult catechesis
- How to introduce the faith to younger generations
- How to share your personal story with Jesus and to hear others' personal story with Jesus
- Why aren't young people going to church? Is this the question we should be asking? Or can it be shifted toward "Where do I find meaning in my life?"
- What is your next step regardless of where you are at in your faith journey?

PPC members are requested to share insight and responses to follow-up questions in an effort to continue brainstorming.

Pastor's Update: Fr. Jerry Boland

- **Stewardship Offering/Initiative Updates:** This is a process of education and formation. This is not just one singular program. It is a constant process of forming a community around what it means to be a faithful steward. Overall, the response was very positive and well-received. We have a strong foundation to build on. By the next Finance Council Meeting, we would like to see that our collections have increased.
- **Capital Projects Updates:** We are focusing on the bells system. Engineers are shooting for sometime after the first of the year. The plans for the renovation of McDonell Hall are in motion with the Village of Glenview. Once completed, the plans will go out to bid. The space has to be functional and multi-purpose. We have to prepare for a ripple effect of items to address as construction begins. Project is shooting to be complete so that the space is functional by summer. We are also looking at investing in the video surveillance of the campus as well as the lighting of the campus. The focus remains on how to make campus safer and more secure. This is an ongoing goal. We were recommended a bluetooth blocking system for door security in case of emergency. Any surplus finances may go to the entrance of Glenview Road.
- **Glenview Thanksgiving Service:** Interfaith service is held annually and well-attended. The non-denominational holiday presents a unique opportunity to share in prayer.
- **Mass Attendance:** We are up 27% from last year. We are still below pre-COVID19 levels but increasing.

Finance Council Update: Bridget Baumstark

Members in attendance at the Diocesan Day of Renewal which sparked new energy. They are supportive and encouraging of the neighborhood gatherings. They would love to introduce a speaker series in the future. The council is supportive and would like to help with engagement. The main driver of our financials is the offertory. We are up 8.6% since last year. We are still 5% below budget. This is driving the push for progress. 47% of offertory cards that went out to donors indicated that their current commitment was \$0. How do we support the bottom line of the Parish and not just the bottom line of the school? Can we make the QR code more accessible? Can we use Venmo?

Religious Education Update: Bridget Baumstark

Program desperately needs volunteer support to get different events off the ground. More hands are need to make lighter work.

Parish Summit Feedback/Debrief: Sara Carsten

We had around 100 people in attendance. 19 people responded to the feedback request survey with 100% who were highly interested in Fr. Pat McGrath as speaker. Feedback was provided for

next year. Generally, responses were positive and supportive. The videos were wonderful for post-event viewing. Sara Carsten did a great job interweaving each part of the event.

December Meeting & Christmas Dinner: Sara Carsten & Patti Lawler

Next meeting will be dinner at the rectory. A sign-up will be sent out for meal planning purposes. Start-time will be at 6:30PM to start with fellowship, then potluck and meeting.

Ministry Appreciation Mass: Ben Parma

February 3rd and February 17th are available after 5PM mass for the reception. February 17th is confirmed.

Closing Prayer: Kevin Dougherty