

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2023, 7:30 pm Rectory**

PPC members present:

Fr. Jerry Boland	X	Patti Lawler	x	Mike Crowe	x	Brian Callahan	x
Laura Roche	x	Bridget Baumstark	x	Gretchen Zagzebski		Tom Huffman	x
Mark Cullum	x	Kevin Dougherty		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 offered by Tom Huffman

Approval of Minutes

The November meeting minutes were approved.

Pastor's Update:

Mid-point of the program year. Fr Boland is grateful for all the support on the survey. CSI is interested in the profile of OLPH that came from the survey. In particular, CSI is interested in 1) How likely parishioners are to recommend OLPH 2) What is the feedback on the the pastor given the strength of those responses.

Summit Feedback: Are we asking the right questions of our Catholic community? Parish of the future will have to figure out how to reach all portions of our congregation.

Ministry Reports: Feedback from the various ministries is critical. Fr Boland emphasized the importance of the PPC engagement and reporting on the various ministries.

Vicariate 1: We are in the early stages of the new structure, and we are learning how we relate with in it.

Finance Council: Headwinds from the pandemic continue to affect all parishes. In order to hit the budget for this year, was necessary to hit it head on. The Bridge the Gap initiative helped significantly – we are meeting the weekly budget since that campaign began. October count is

up 27% over prior year. While still below pre-pandemic levels, we are moving in the right direction.

Neighborhood gatherings will resume in the New Year.

Sharing Ministry continues to be an important way we carry out our mission as a parish.

Capital Projects:

McDonnell Hall

- Making decisions on additional repairs when the ceiling comes down. Considering HVAC/Piping repairs/replacement
- Tentative start for Mid-February though still subject to permit/plan approval by the Village
- Goal is completion by mid-summer
- 9:30 mass will continue but in a new location – possibly Hickey Hall or Playdium.
- New design will allow for better flow of traffic and improvement in set up/take down for various events

Glenview Road Entrance:

- If resources are available, would like to tackle this project.
- Primary driver is pedestrian safety.
- Also looking to improve ingress/egress from parking lot.

Bells:

- In production now, design work is complete.
- Clock will be replaced.
- Goal is completion by Easter.

Advent/Christmas: Shortened calendar this year with fourth Sunday of Advent falling on Christmas Eve. Christmas mass schedule is set.

Stewardship Appeal: Impressions from the appeal are positive. Weekly collections are less of an indicator of financial performance as people have shifted their method/frequency of contribution.

Ministry Community Update – Mike Crowe and John Simons

Liturgical Ministry meetings take place once a month in the rectory. Topics/span of control include Alter Services, Eucharistic Ministers, Arts & Environment, Bereavement, Ushers and Readers

Patti asked that all PPC members update her with any updates/changes to Ministry contacts

Listening Session Feedback – Sara Carsten

Focus now turns to the design of listening sessions, with an emphasis on reaching those we did not hear from in the survey. Question was asked whether or not we need to design an elaborate and extensive session structure or act now on the immediate areas of focus.

Ideas Shared:

- Results from survey indicate a great affection for OLPH.
- Adult catechesis could be a good channel to leverage for listening sessions
- Leverage school and RE parent community to tap into younger demographic feedback
- Must be willing to confront what we think are barriers to engagement
- Leverage PPC members to instead of directly with Fr Boland
- Focus on smaller groups of sessions to enhance feedback. Leverage strength of our - Guilds and Men's Club, and other Ministries. For example, have representatives from PPC/others at events at tables
- Consider drawing people to sessions with topics to discuss – some suggestions were discussions on divorce, LGBTQ community in the church, Women in the church.
- Fr Boland commented on the importance of approaching the sessions with a global ear and not jumping to conclusions as to why someone may not be engaged in the parish/faith.

Ministry Appreciation Mass – Ben Parma

- McDonnell Hall – 2/17/24
- Sign-up for volunteers was passed around the room
- By our January PPC meeting we will have more confidence in the location of the Mass

Thank You/Farewell to Gretchen – Sara Carsten/All

New Business:

None raised.

Closing Prayer – John Simons