

OLPH Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
04/15/24 7:30 pm Flavin

PPC members present:

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

Patti Lawler

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes for March approved.

Zoe Sundstrom - Youth Ministry Update

- **RE Board** - Erin Bretts NEEDS more representation and support! How can we get more people to join?
 - Can we reach out to RE parents more and see if any would be interested?
 - Running into issues with meeting attendance and worry with lack of support if key RE events will be able to move forward next year.
- **General Youth Ministry Update**
 - Meet every 4th Sunday of the month.
 - Started a works of mercy prayer service.
 - Started working through the Parables in January.
 - Tends to attract 10-15 kids, many recently confirmed.
 - Acts of Service:
 - October - Put together 180 Halloween bags for Our Lady of Tepeyac.
 - November - Collaborated with St. Catherine's to write letters to all those parishioners that had lost someone last year and sent them with poinsettias.
 - December - Helped with the St. Sabina's Christmas Party, decorated O.L.P.H. church for Christmas masses and collaborated with RE Board to host the Spirit of Christmas party.
 - January - Made 9+ casseroles for Eucharistic Ministries and wanted to make more!

- February - Collaborated with Domestic Violence Ministry to bring in a speaker with a theme of “Healthy relationships, healthy you”. She spoke about what healthy relationships look like and how to be on both the giving and receiving ends of a healthy relationship. The kids really liked this specific speaker and the Youth Ministry would love to bring her back. Zoe suggested doing this in both February (Teen Domestic Violence month) and October (Domestic Violence Awareness month).
 - March - YM put together 130 brown bags. Had a great turnout and loved doing the live Stations of the Cross in church and watched Passion of the Christ together. Zoe and the kids would like to make watching this film an annual tradition for the Lent. Margie asked the teens to take part in the washing of the feet which many of the kids really got a lot out of.
 - April - Kids did a Lenten retreat which was great and included a ministry project with Ministries of Care.
 - Feel like the Youth Group is really coming together. Kids asked to hang out in the Youth Room after Stations of the Cross. Really getting to be a tight knit group!
 - **Areas of focus requested from PPC for Youth Ministry**
 - Our Lady of Tepeyac Summer Bags - Goal is to make 150 but really need RE community participation beyond parents of those in the Youth Ministry. Need to broaden the pool so the YM parents don't keep getting hit with donation requests.
 - Can we open to the whole parish? (Will be distributed at the Our Lady of Angels block party - want to take some teens but need buses + chaperones etc.) *How?
 - How can we get the RE families to become more active?
 - Would love to see Guilds take on bigger community events (i.e. Summer Fest & Blocktoberfest) Can we loop in the Women's Club and Men's Club?
 - Mark Cullum suggested starting with Terri Luc and farming out to the Parish Outreach Group. Ultimately need to get Terri and those who have helped him in the past to connect and identify how to broaden needs across people vs. all falling on Zoe and him.
 - Glenview Festival Needs: get there early to set up, break down, swag plus candy plus face paint, fliers, need to man the booth and organize that slot filling. Can a Guild take on Summer Fest and Men's Club take on Blocktoberfest?
 - Can we utilize OLPH's social media presence more to promote contributing to the Summer Baskets and support at the 2x key Glenview festivals?
 - Upcoming SPRED masses:
 - Sunday, April 28th
 - Tuesday, May 14th

Pastor's Update:

- Great crowds for Easter and the Church looked gorgeous!
- Music was just beautiful during the Lenten season.
- Seem to see numbers growing in attendees at Church which is really great to see! May be adding an additional 10:30a mass on Sunday both upstairs and downstairs to accommodate.
- Received 3 candidates into the Faith on Holy Saturday. Three Moms that really wanted to be a part of their child's First Communion experience.

Capital Projects

- **Playdium** - in great shape with new roof, new floor etc.
- **McDonnell Hall Renovations** - taking a while, waiting for Village to sign off on aspects of the plan. 3x contractors wanting to bid on the project and all feel they can start as soon as they get sign off. Holding tight.
- **New Bells in Church Tower** - Specialists they need are few and far between so taking a while to get one appointed for OLPH. Aiming for early Summer.
- **Assessing Summer Improvement projects:** masonry on stairs, areas that need insulation enhanced for cold weather to prevent pipes bursting, struggle with storage space (get a dumpster every year to clean out various storage spaces).
- **Archdiocese and Capital Campaign:**
 - \$300 Million effort (Arch raises \$200M, Parishes raise \$100M) - Case statement for capital campaign here? What will OLPH focus these funds on?
 - Ideas:
 - Operating on the same staff model for 20 years - but what's the next chapter for that? How to integrate all ministries? Who leads that? Would we want to use funds to invest in these types of things? Capital campaign should be more visionary. What would help strongly position our Parish for the next generation?
 - Invest in Priest pension plans for a new wave of older, retiring priests.
 - Invest in infrastructure (i.e. social media etc.), ongoing curriculum for catechesis (i.e. RE in conjunction with parents).
 - Pilot starts this summer with 15 parishes and then fall first wave with 11 more parishes and add waves for next year or two. See OLPH as participating later in the process so we can wrap up the most recent campaign. Fr. Boland prefers to finish the current campaign but internal push to be part of the pilot given parish image etc. Conversations are just getting started and will continue to be a growing focus.
- **Earned Tax Credit Program** (part of recovery from Covid)
 - Helps cover taxes for your employees. Needed to submit docs today so mad dash to be a part of it. Got everything in and qualified!

- Could get \$500,000 credit. Then it needs to sit in Escrow for months before being released to parishes and then Parishes have to wait before spending.
- Some go to school because based on employees of the school but OLPH can spend it on whatever they want, no requirements. Could be kept as a type of Emergency Fund for Parish and used for things like replacement of Church roof.
- **New Fiscal Year Budgets:** Starting budget process for new fiscal year - Parish FTE salaries should be increasing by 4-6%. Benefits are always a large expense. Meeting budget as income due to generosity of Parish.
- **Vicariate Update** - Currently still in Vicariate 1 with Bishop Gregg.
 - Review parish on financial, spiritual levels, pressing issues etc. OLPH is in 99th percentile in all categories they look at, great affirmation of the people of our Parish. So many new outlets for inviting people into the life of the parish and we are in a very strong position though we need to continue to move forward.
 - Fr. Boland and a cohort of pastors are going through an Evangelization Seminar: how to form an evangelization committee connected to Parish life (what can we be doing? what are we doing vs. not doing?) What should those on an Evang. team look like? Share ideas across Pastors.
 - Great conversations with parents and how to handle kids on Social Media. How are we helping our Faith community deal with parent issues, marriage issues, faith challenges etc? Goal = How to create a mission of Evangelization in our parish?

Ministry Community Updates

Brian and Tom Ministry Updates

- **Boy Scouts (Troop 57)**
 - Boys and girls, 6th and up, ~30 total.
 - Meet every Sunday (50/50 OLPH and Public school kids).
 - Father Boland has been awesome as former Eagle Scout
 - Amy Mills has been great as well.
 - Leaders are so passionate about the scouts and none even have kids in the scouts any more.
 - Challenges: Real need to catch kids in 1st or 2nd grade. Losing some to sports and so much variety and travel.
- **Men's Club**
 - New President coming on is Danny McDonald (40yo). Has great energy and brings a lot of young community support to the group.
 - Has a young handicapped son and his goal is to get an elevator in Playdium.
 - Collaborating with LVOG to help sponsor events.
 - Give a lot of money back to Parish.
- **Girl Scouts**
 - Leader is Irina Konchan.
 - 125 girls, 8 troops, 90% in OLPH.

- Collect canned goods for needy families and make a lot of brown bags for Sr. Paulanne.
- Appreciative Fr. Boland buys cookies every year. Raise \$750 selling cookies and give a portion back to Needy Family Fund.
- Write letters to vets which have such a great impact on girls.
- **Knights of Columbus**
 - John O'Malley Grand Knight started at 16yo. Going to retire after 2 years.
 - Meets 1x per month and officials meet 1x a month at OLPH and St. Catherine's (St. C's centric).
 - Organization aging out...
 - As a member, you get a strong life insurance policy. One of the original selling points.
 - Big drive is tootsie roll drive in Fall, their ID (Internal Disabilities) Drive. Raised about \$18k every year for this drive.
 - Push: Spaghetti for Clergy this Saturday at St. Catherine Laboure'. Hope to have it next year at OLPH and support Sr. Paulanne.
- **Green Business Networking Group** - Led by Jon Nicolau.
 - Most active '08-'12 but still active when needs arise.
 - Resume writing, interview skills, job posting etc.
 - Going for 22 years.
- **Phoenix Senior Group** - Led by Danielle G.
 - Singles elderly group to get out and about.
 - Sadly the group disbanded but the core group of 10 women still meet 1-2x per year for dinner.
- **Welcoming Committee** - Led by Karen Navarre
 - Reaches out to new parishioners and invites them to join our parish community.
 - Sends welcome packet and a welcome letter.
 - Would be happy to hand off to someone that can update the process and bring it into the next generation. Connects school, Men's and Women's Club and RE to new families.
- **Parish Engagement** - Led by Margie Andre'
 - Limited activity since Covid. Trying to rebuild it with a launch in the Fall.

New Member Recruitment

Ongoing! Several bulletin interviews coming! Three people are interested! May interview process is the goal. Sara will be reaching out to Patti and Mark as outgoing members and others to set up dates for help with interviews.

Reminder: We are to keep all information shared at PPC meetings confidential.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Joint Finance Council Meeting - May 20th at 7:30p in Hickey Hall
- PPC Dinner - June 10th at 6:30p in Rectory

New Business:

- Kevin tackling aggregation of ministry updates and info so we have something to both work off of next year and gauge for progress.

Closing Prayer:

Tom Huffman