

OLPH Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
11/18/24 7:30 pm
Parish Center 3rd Floor Conference Room 1

PPC members present:

Fr. Jerry Boland	X	Marilyn Jansen	X	Mike Crowe	X	Brian Callahan	X
Bridget Baumstark	X	Cindy Rourke	X	Kevin Dougherty	X	Tom Huffman	
Sara Carsten	X	Kevin Ryan	X	Tracey Zabriskie	X	Sandy McBreen	X
John Simons	X	Danielle Schuh		Laura Roche	X	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:

Sandy McBreen

Approval of Minutes:

Our last meeting (October 2024) minutes were approved.

Ministry of Care Update (Jim Vlazny - guest)

Jim Vlazny provided an update on Ministry of Care, an important ministry he leads with Rick Nash. With fewer priests and more people to visit, there is a need for Ministry of Care to be of service. Ministers visit parishioners in nursing care, hospitals and their homes, providing the Holy Eucharist, sharing the word of God in Scripture, praying, and offering companionship. There are currently 32 home bound parishioners being served, and Jim asked for help identifying other people who would enjoy such visits (there are information cards available in the back of Church). Anyone who wants a visit, regardless of age, etc., is qualified. Jim also shared that new rules at Glenbrook Hospital require parishioners to formally request a visit from a Minister of Care through the hospital. Jim asked PPC members to share information about Ministry of Care with other ministries to promote and ask for help in finding other home bound parishioners. Members expressed gratitude to Jim and Rick for this wonderful and important ministry.

Current Business (Mike Crowe)

Mike provided a debrief on the Summit, noting the positive feedback on the speakers and panel. There were approximately 90 attendees, and unsure of number of online views at this point. The format seemed appropriate, as well as the setup with just chairs and no tables. There was a suggestion to begin planning the Summit earlier, with the incoming chair beginning to choose a date, theme and speakers now rather than waiting until late summer. Turnout continues to be a

concern. There was discussion that the Summit may need a rebranding, as many may not know what the event is, who is supposed to be invited, what it is trying to accomplish. Perhaps a “Morning of Reflection” may be more inviting. The length of time (9:00-noon) may be off-putting as well, with the suggestion that a shorter time frame could be more appealing. Mike is in communication with Deepak Devaraj for some ideas on continued collaboration with JFX Parish in 2025.

A reminder that the December meeting will be a dinner at the Rectory on December 16th at 6:30 PM. Sign-up Genius to come for the potluck. Possibility that Erin Bretts will join us for an update on Religious Education program.

Mike reminded Members to begin thinking about recruiting possible candidates for new membership, a process that will begin shortly after the new year.

Pastor’s Updates:

Capital Campaign

The upcoming campaign is called “Generation to Generation.” Each parish has a goal based on their offertory, with 50% going to the Archdiocese and 50% remaining in the parish.

We are still in the early phases and gathering potential projects, such as campus accessibility (elevators in the Playdium, Carrollton, and Lexington buildings), hospitality spaces (Centennial Room and spaces for more small group gatherings), security upgrades, meeting and rehearsal spaces, gifts to sharing parishes. It is a time of discernment for the goal amount and projects that will serve as generational investments. The process will begin in earnest after the first of the year.

McDonnell Hall

Three bids have come in, with the hope that the best bid will be processed in the coming weeks, with a hopeful start date after the first of the year.

The project could potentially take 4-6 months to complete. It will be a great investment for the future of the parish.

Bridge the Gap

Offertory collections decrease over the summer and early fall, so the campaign invites parishioners to help bridge the gap. Many have responded generously.

The annual report was recently mailed out. Fr. Jerry expressed gratitude for the stewardship of talent and support from the parishioners. Other recent successes include a New Parishioner welcome mass and a 3.5-4% increase in October counts over last year.

Catholic Charities Update

Many parishioners have been actively involved in Catholic Charities and the attempt to recover some of the outreach and ministries that have been shut down recently. There are some creative ideas being discussed for ways to reach out to those in need, such as a mobile food pantry.

Our sharing parishes continue to be extremely grateful for OLPH's support

Jubilee Year at OLPH

Pope Francis will declare a Jubilee Year on December 24th, an event that takes place every 25 years. Every diocese is asked to observe the Jubilee with pilgrimages within the Archdiocese.

OLPH has been chosen to be a site for the pilgrimage, representing our vicariate. All are encouraged to visit the various pilgrimage churches throughout the Archdiocese.

Vicariate Update

With the announcement of Bishop Grob as the new Archbishop of Milwaukee, our vicariate will need a new bishop. Cardinal Cupich has appointed Fr. Jerry as interim vicar until a new bishop is appointed in late February or early March (when new bishops are ordained).

Members congratulated Fr. Jerry and offered support as he assumes more duties in the coming months.

New Business

Kevin reminded all that the Ministry Appreciation Mass will occur on February 8th. This is an opportunity to say thank you to those who work in the various ministries at OLPH. The Mass will be at 5:00 PM in the Church, with the reception following in the Playdium this year. Kevin will be sending a Sign-Up Genius for various responsibilities, as well as some Zoom meetings for planning in December and January.

Closing Prayer:

Kevin Ryan