

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
03-16-2026 7:00pm
Parish Center Third Floor Conference Room 1

PPC Members Present:

Fr. Jerry Boland X	Mike Crowe X	Matt Kline X	Danielle Schuh X
Chad Barney X	Kevin Dougherty	Margaret Pasquesi X	Tracey Zabriskie X
Kim Bredemann X	Tom Huffman	Laura Roche X	
Brian Callahan	Marilyn Jansen X	Cindy Rourke X	
Sara Carsten	Elisa Kline X	Kevin Ryan	

OLPH Mission: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish 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- Chad Barney

New Pastor

Fr Jerry opened the meeting discussing the recent announcement of Fr John Trout as the incoming Pastor of OLPH. Fr Jerry shared what he knows of Fr Trout's background as being a St Patrick's Father originally, his experience doing missionary work in Africa and his role as pastor at St Joe's in Libertyville and St. Anne's in Barrington. It was discussed that Fr Trout will likely have a busy schedule as he finishes his time at St Anne's but there could be opportunities for him to come to OLPH a few times before he begins in July – not likely until after Easter though. Fr Jerry reiterated his excitement for Fr Trout as the next Pastor, particularly his affable nature, his gift for preaching and his inclusive approach. Fr Jerry also mentioned how helpful the work of the PPC was in creating the Parish Profile and the strong response from the survey of the parish in what we were looking for in the next Pastor.

February Minutes were approved – Danielle Schuh

Bylaw Update Project – Matt Kline

Matt Kline provided an update on the project to update the bylaws of the PPC. The team that is working on that will provide a draft to the PPC by 4/13 and be in a position to vote on the new bylaws in the April meeting, which will take place on 4/20.

Capital Campaign – Mike Crowe

Mike Crowe provided an update on the Capital Campaign, given his role on the Steering Committee. The modifications/enhancement to the Church Street entrance of the Lexington building are progressing as is the project for the installation of an elevator in that building. There was a brief discussion of other projects in the scope of the campaign that will be tackled as funding becomes available from collections. The bulletin continues to be a great resource to the parish for a progress update on campaign projects.

OLPH United – Mike Crowe

Mike Crowe reminded the group that we will begin the planning process for OLPH United '26 (or the next evolution of the event). The group discussed the idea of soliciting feedback from the parish on what it is looking for in an event. All will be discussed with a launch of that effort within the next 30 days.

Ministry Update – Human Concerns – Laura Roche, Elisa Kline

Laura Roche and Elisa Kline provided updates on the Ministries that make up Human Concerns. Those include Sharing Ministry, Ministry of Care, Respect Life, Project Linus, Meal Ministry, Knit for Life. A description of each was provided, including active participants and stated mission. Ministry of Care was highlighted for its reach and how it has been used in training videos for similar ministries in parishes around the country.

Pastor Updates – Fr Jerry

A person has been identified for the Director of Religious Education. Fr Jerry was excited about what the individual would bring to the role with experience as both a school teacher and catechist.

McDonnell Hall is nearly complete. The kitchen was recently finished and only cove lighting and furniture remain in the project. There have already been some events in the space. The goal is to have it ready for mass on Easter Sunday. Fr Jerry also mentioned the idea of having a (re) dedication event after Easter sometime.

The parish has commissioned a safety audit, the final report from which is expected soon. There will be several recommendations to come from it though there will be a discernment of what is a priority and practical for the activity of the parish. The report will be shared with the PPC later in the spring.

Fr Jerry gave a preview of our Lenten Alms Giving, which will go to support Sr Lucia and her fellow Sisters in the Ukraine. The monastery where she lives has been converted to a shelter for people who have been displaced by the war in Ukraine. She will be speaking at weekend

Closing Prayer – Danielle Schuh

Meeting Minutes – Mike Crowe

Next Meeting: April 20th 7pm Parish Center 3rd Floor

Thank you for fellowship: Snacks- Laura Roche
Beverages- Margaret Pasquesi