

OLPH Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes, December 18, 2016

PPC members present:

Fr. Jerry Boland	Y	Bill McCabe	Y	Greg Bedell	Y	Mark McKinley	Y
Fr. Nick Kostyk	N	Bob Michels	Y	Bill Nelson	N	Mike Hood	Y
Fr. Isaac Lara	N	Cathy Condon	Y	Kevin Boyle	N	Nancy Detlefsen	Y
		Dave Ludden	Y	Laura Flentye	Y	Rob Orr	Y
		Elizabeth Hoshaw	Y	Mara Lindsay	Y	Shannon Dowdle	Y

Opening Prayer: Mike Hood read the opening prayer provided by Kevin Boyle.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from November meeting were approved.

Special Guest Antonio, a pre-theologian studies student from Ecuador joined the meeting.

To Teach Who Christ Is: Campaign is continuing on. Public outreach and efforts are principally complete. We are at \$4.9M – which is 90% of enhanced goal. We also received many major gifts toward our previous campaign – which had a 2-3% write-off, which is outstanding.

We are still very confident that we will reach our goal of \$5.5M. 3 Projects are underway – and more are starting soon – including Science Labs and Phase 1 of McDonnell Hall. There may be a hard deadline in January – it will be communicated formally.

Average gift of \$7,000. Total gifts from: over 700 families. Goal is 1,000 families. Target marketing is taking place with school and RE families.

Deanery Update: Catholic Appeal is keeping steady in spite of the To Teach Who Christ is campaigns – which is a big positive. At a recent APC (archdiocese meeting), it was noted that 4 years ago, we were losing \$40M. After much work, we are now losing \$4M.

Regarding Renew my Church, there are 2 pilot programs – one of which is in the North Shore. These pilots will help determine how things will go for this initiative. St Norbert and Our Lady of the Brook have come together in many respects, including Parish Council, Youth, etc. As a council, we must support Fr Boland and his needs to ensure a smooth transition. This transition will take place over a long period of time.

OLPH and St Catherine will work to combine energies including Domestic Ministry and perhaps Lenten Missions. As a Parish Pastoral Council, we must see what ways we can extend an invite to St Catherine.

Archdiocese School Strategic Plan – which takes place every 5 years – expires in 2016. We are now working on a new plan to enhance catholic identity at our schools. This plan will focus on Wisdom, Worship, Formation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Works of Mercy and Continuing Improvement.

Transformation Next Steps: Things are moving forward. Videos have been made and will be shown in vestibule in January. They will explain where we are and how we got here. A brochure is also being produced so that people can best understand our mission.

A follow-up to the Summit will take place in late January. We will use this opportunity to educate as many people as possible – and curriculum will focus on our journey and next steps. PPC will assist with hospitality.

One key initiative charged was that of “ask one”. This encourages people to ask one person to do something with you – i.e., ask someone to attend church. PPC is piloting this and adapting it to the ministries we are involved in. Natalie is helping with visual elements of the communication plan.

Fr Nick will be giving talks about how to enrich parishioner’s relationship with the church and OLPH. Bringing back some prayer services that will also enhance catechesis.

Youth Ministry Update: Laura is helping Geoff in developing the job description so that we can go live in early January.

PPC will work with Fr Lara to promote, develop and lead events. One element we want to be helpful with is communicating events in advance and communicating how activities go – perhaps branding it in a spot in the bulletin so that people know where to look.

Parish Public Safety Plan: Participants will attend a Safety Seminar in late January.

Centralized key system is underway.

Parish Communication Strategy: Working on how to utilize the OLPH website, The City and other communication sources with the Engagement Team.

Renew My Church: Father met with the 4 pastors whom we will be working with. They had a great meeting and came up with some ideas they'd like to try so that our communities interact. One main goal is: being inclusive to all 4 parishes.

- St Catherine has a Lenten mission planned in early March. The Speaker is Wayne Mesmer. This looks like an outstanding event.
- Instead of having 4 Lenten reconciliation services, we may join efforts.
- Sharing Pulpits may take place down the road.
- Possibility of a retired priest sharing this resource, who would be sacramentally available.
- Domestic Violence team is working together. This has been a very positive interaction and experience.
- A survey went out in 2016 – OLPH had a very high turnout. Attitudes of parishioners was very interesting. Gave an interesting view of what a vital parish looks like. At January meeting, Fr Boland will provide more detail.

Christmas Mass Volunteers: Need assistance with Greeters/Ushers at masses. Margie Andre is asking for help – you can reach out to her or sign up at this meeting.

Pastor's Report: Our parish is alive and active. There is an abundance of energy going on in our ministries, capital campaign, transformation – all over.

A podcast will be available for an entire Christmas liturgy. An email blast will be sent for Ministry of Care so they can help others find these podcasts.

Laudato Si ministry is trying to bring recycling efforts a big push ahead. We do recycle, but there is confusion around it and we can systematize things.

We have been working with St Peter & Paul about a solar plan project. We are working through issues and it has been very good to work with St Peter & Paul.

OLPH is preparing for Nancy S to retire in 2017. We are working toward a VP Finance who oversees the entire finance operation. Nancy runs facilities and buildings – that portion of the position will move to Mike who heads up maintenance. The school/parish finance systems also need to be better integrated. Goal is to finalize job description and then work toward hiring a qualified candidate.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nancy Detlefsen.