

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2021, 7:30 PM, Flavin Room**

PPC members present:

Fr. Jerry Boland		Mark Cullum	X	John Nicolau	X	Gretchen Zagzebski	X
Fr. Patrick Kizza	X	Steve Schmidt	X	Mike Wycklendt	X	John Simons	X
Susan Logan	X	Lisa Salemi	X	Tom Monticello	X	Patti Lawler	X
Tom O'Brien	X	Mark Ruchniewicz	X	Bridget Baumstark	X	Sara Carsten	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 Susan Logan

Introductions

The PPC members (re)introduced themselves to Fr. Kizza, and vice versa.

Approval of Minutes

The September meeting minutes were approved.

Update from the Pastor

Fr. Kizza discussed his selection and role as Administrator while Fr. Boland is on sabbatical. He is very grateful for the opportunity.

Renew My Church

The most recent Renew My Church meeting was held at St. Norbert. The group talked openly about the future and how the collective resources can be shared. There were some wonderful ideas, including the sharing of Mass schedules for greater flexibility and coverage, and pointed efforts to welcome people from the three parishes at the beginning of Masses at each location. The next meeting is scheduled for October 29, and will be held at St. Catherine Labouré.

Other Updates

Fr. Kizza spoke to Cardinal Cupich this weekend, when he was here for a wedding, and he was very grateful, positive and encouraging regarding OLPH.

The bishops' synod is taking place now. It brings people together to listen to each other, and to work together as the Church. It is expected to take two years.

The OLPH school is doing well, and handling the Covid situation effectively relative to other schools.

A warm welcome was extended again to all the new members to the PPC, and many thanks.

Summit Planning Update

The Summit subcommittee has been meeting frequently and working on the various components. The theme of the annual Summit will be Collective Healing Amidst the Pandemic. The keynote presentation will be delivered by Fr. Kartje, and discussions have been held with him regarding the topic and thematic material.

Bridget Baumstark updated the team on the communication and registration process. The Eventbrite process from last year was used as the model. The text was updated at the site and a modified version was created for the web site and email. Nine people have registered so far, prior to broad distribution of the signup link. Terry Luc will initiate an email blast starting Wednesday of this week. An email with the link can be sent by PPC members to all the ministry leaders for further distribution.

John Nicolau reported that six of the eight people confirmed for the testimonials have been recorded, with two more planned for this Saturday. John, Jim Gelderman, and Rob Orr will be onsite for the event, assisting with technical needs.

Tom Monticello and Patti Lawler provided an update regarding the plan for the facility and refreshments. A continental breakfast will be provided, and planned further once the in person attendee count is clearer.

Tom O'Brien reviewed the agenda and expected duration of the various topics. A breakout session will be planned for those who are attending in person. Sharing the same or similar questions for those online may offer a good reflection opportunity for that group.

Goal Setting

A number of potential goals for the PPC were discussed, including:

- Support Renew My Church
 - An activity could be held with the PPCs of our sister parishes
 - Highlight the access to more ministries and options (addition vs subtraction)
 - Support the program of the soft landing that is planned
- Support the Reopening Process – attending Mass and re-energizing ministries
 - Provide a personal touch for invitations - Fr. Kizza highlighted that invitation is very important
 - Engage with people of different age groups
 - Allow people to express their fears
 - Support activities that encourage re-engagement, such as Advent wreath creation

- Support the RE program and Margaret Waldron by leveraging contacts that parents have in the public school system to get message out to the broader community. A system with captains / coordinators could be set up.
- Support Fr. Kizza during Fr. Boland's sabbatical

Additional consideration of this topic will take place prior to the next PPC meeting.

Ministry Engagement

Ministry engagement was discussed in part through the prior topic. Summit invitations and encouragement to attend will be sent by PPC members to the appropriate ministry leaders in each community.

Closing Prayer Offered by Mark Ruchniewicz