

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2020**

PPC members present:

Fr. Jerry Boland	X	Mark Cullum	X	Steven Schmidt	X	Cindy Moody	X
Fr. Nick Kostyk		Tim Daniels		Tom O'Brien	X	Bob Pirsein	X
Fr. Patrick Kizza		Laura Flentye	X	Susan Logan	X	Mike Wycklendt	X
		Maria Grable	X	Tom Monticello	X	Mark Ruchniewicz	
		Marti Guerrero		John Nicolau	X	Lisa Salemi	

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 Cindy Moody

Review of Minutes

Susan Logan presented the January 2020 minutes to the members of the PPC. Cindy Moody noted one typographical error in the minutes. John Nicolau made a motion to approve the minutes as revised and the motion was seconded by Bob Pirsein and approved by all attending PPC members.

Ministry Appreciation Mass and Reception

Bob Pirsein reviewed the format and plan for the liturgy of the Ministry Appreciation Mass scheduled for February 23. PPC members should plan to arrive at McDonnell Hall at 2 p.m. that day to set up. Mr. Pirsein will lead a practice run of the Mass at approximately 5:15 p.m. Catering, beverages, decorations, tables and linens have been ordered. Thanks to the organization of all members the Mass and Reception appear to be on track. At last count, Lisa Salemi counted 132 "Yes" RSVPs.

Service Project Update

Tom Monticello provided a Service Project update with regard to Eucharistic Adoration. Feedback has been positive, and Mr. Monticello encourages all to continue adoration and track their hours. Maria Grable noted how impressive parishioners' commitment has been to this initiative.

Deanery Update

Laura Flentye reports that the next Deanery meeting will be in March.

Engagement Ministry

Cindy Moody reported that the Lenten theme is “For God So Loved the World That He Gave His Only Son.” Lisa Fortini-Campbell will present on March 18 at 7 p.m. related to this Lenten theme and how prayer may heal breaches between ourselves and God.

Ms. Moody discussed how the Engagement Ministry coordinated to donate 40 soccer balls, 30 volleyballs, 30 basketballs and 20 pumps as well as a monetary donation of \$300 for bags and baggage fees for Father Patrick Kizza to take to Uganda. Father Kizza will likely give a talk when he returns from Africa on the impact this donation has had.

The Engagement Ministry is planning events including a fireside chat for this spring, hopefully with Sr. Paulanne. Ms. Moody also reports that Gathership is doing well and that they may incorporate Russell Stern’s music in the background. The ministry’s next meeting is this Wednesday.

Update from Pastor

Father Boland noted that the Parish has seen the end of an era with the passing of OLPH’s oldest parishioner, John Bernauer. Mr. Bernauer was five years old when OLPH was founded in 1919, and he threw out the first pitch at Wrigley Field when he was 100 years old. He was so utterly proud of this Parish and a wonderful ambassador to the community.

Father Boland expressed that we hold Marti Guerrero and her family in our prayers as Marti cares for her mother during her time of illness.

Father Boland discussed the Parish’s search for a Director of Religious Education; Father expressed his thanks to Father Barrett and Randy McGraw for their work as interim directors. Due to the 900 students in the Religious Education program, the search will likely entail hiring both a Director of Religious Education and an assistant.

Next, Father Boland discussed NPH, a network of homes in Latin America and the Caribbean for orphaned and at-risk children. Chuck Allworth is director for the Midwest Council for NPH homes. The children from El Salvador will be spending a week here. We’ll be happy to host them and celebrate March 5 with a Fiesta in McDonnell Hall after the 5 o’clock Mass.

As for Renew My Church, Father Boland shared that OLPH is not scheduled to be activated until 2021. One pressing concern is schools-- enrollment is a challenge at St. Norbert’s and St. Catherine Laboure, which may not want to wait until 2021 to receive direction. Meetings are scheduled between the parishes’ school boards to address these issues. Father Boland discussed the availability of scholarships funded by OLPH parishioners for St. Catherine’s students and how this could help stabilize St. Catherine’s enrollment, which currently stands at 150-160 students. St. Norbert’s has been relying on its endowment to continue funding the school of about 100 students.

Father Boland shared that he is in the sixth year of his term, which was originally scheduled to conclude in June. Last year, he was involved in 360 Review to solicit feedback on his ministry-- OLPH broke the record for the most parishioners who responded. Father shared that it was wonderful feedback and helpful to him. As a result of that feedback and after meeting with vicariate and Church leadership, Father was just informed that he has been reappointed to serve as Pastor of OLPH. There are no longer six-year terms.

Father expressed his gratitude for the many ministries and support at OLPH and the dynamic people involved as well as the sense that we are in this together. Father also noted that, while this is a very complicated time for the Church and there are divisions, he is so grateful for parishioners to be as committed as they are.

New Member Recruitment

Maria Grable requested that everyone continue to think of individuals that would add value to the PPC as new members. Laura Flentye and Mrs. Grable will review past practices as far as member recruitment and begin coordinating the same process. New candidates will be interviewed at the end of April / beginning of May.

Review of Goal Setting for 2019-2020

For Renew My Parish, Maria Grable shared that she has only heard back from one parish and will await further responses. Mrs. Grable is grateful for everyone's participation in the adoration service project.

2020-2021 Council

Maria Grable announced that Tom O'Brien has agreed to serve as Vice Chair for the coming 2020-2021 PPC. Susan Logan will move from Vice Chair to Chair, and Mrs. Grable will serve as Deanery Representative. PPC members expressed their appreciation for these members' service.

Men's Club

John Nicolau shared that the Men's Club will have a St. Patrick's Day party on March 14. He also presented that the Queen of Hearts raffle has kicked off and there will be a drawing at the St. Patrick's Day party.

Closing Blessing offered by Bob Pirsein.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.