

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2022, 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 Tom O'Brien

Approval of Minutes

The January meeting minutes were approved.

Religious Education / Youth Ministry

Angela Romero introduced herself to the team. She has background experience in youth ministry from a prior position in Reno, Nevada, and has also taught religion in middle school. The Religious Education program has over 500 students, across the three constituent programs. The mask mandate will be lifted for them. The highest number of students are in the digital ministry program, following some recent transitions into that program. There are some great volunteers in the program, whose services are highly appreciated.

Fr. Kizza has been leading the Youth Ministry. The Lenten retreat is planned for about 18 participants. A weekly youth group meeting has been underway. This semester the theme is the Trinity. The week of June 12 is planned for Totus Tuus, and registration will be opened around March 1.

Challenges in the combined ministry include the current heavy workload involved, given reduced staff size, and the difficulties with parent participation during Covid. The digital ministry program, in particular, could use additional assistance, as it is difficult to remotely check on weekly work progress. It was also noted that 40% of the families do not go to weekly Mass, which also has an impact. It was suggested that having a sign-up for tasks would be helpful, as well as continued PPC participation within the Religious Education board.

Angela has recently met with the leader of religious education at St. Catherine's to see how the parishes could work together more closely.

The PPC truly appreciates Angela stepping into the role, and the great work she been doing.

Ministry Appreciation Event Update

Mark Cullum provided an update on the Ministry Appreciation Event. The scheduled date was revised to Sunday, May 15, and there were no conflicts identified. A list of volunteer needs for various roles was distributed and completed.

2022-23 PPC Member Recruitment Plan and Update

The announcement of the open Parish Pastoral Council positions and request for applications will take place soon. This year we are looking to fill five positions. Candidates can be encouraged to participate now and interviews are expected to occur in April and May.

Lenten Stations of the Cross – Friday, April 1

The PPC will help facilitate the Stations of the Cross on April 1. Sample guides will be distributed.

Pastor's Update (led by Fr. Patrick Kizza)

Reopening and Covid Protocol Updates

Fr. Patrick Kizza shared a summary of the Archdiocese guidelines. OLPH has moved to an optional status for masks in the Church and school. Additional updates will be shared as they become available.

Renew My Church

The Renew My Church meeting with Bishop Bartosic was rescheduled for March 14. It is expected that he will talk about vision, leadership and evangelization. All three parishes are invited to participate. An example of coordination would be seeing the Mass schedules for all three parishes in all three bulletins (physical and online).

Lenten Preparations

All the Lenten services will be in the Church (none outside). The Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Puerto Rico has asked for assistance, as they were significantly affected by the recent storms. Our response is being planned, coordinated through Catholic Relief Services.

School

Masks are now optional in the school, per the Archdiocese. About half of students are wearing masks in the classrooms, with some variation across grade levels. Reporters who recently inquired about the mask policy were directed to the Archdiocese policies.

Capital Projects

There are three capital projects remaining.

Other

There was a discussion about the use of Missalettes at Mass. Various options are still being considered, and the importance of being clear about the decision was discussed.

Closing Prayer offered by Susan Logan