

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2021, 7:30 pm, Flavin Room**

PPC members present:

Fr. Jerry Boland	X	Mark Cullum		John Nicolau	X	Gretchen Zagzebski	X
Fr. Larry Basbas / Fr. Patrick Kizza		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		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 June minutes were amended and approved.

PPC Orientation

Chairperson Tom O'Brien welcomed all the new PPC members: Bridget Baumstark, Gretchen Zagzebski, John Simons, Patti Lawler, and Sara Carsten. All attendees provided brief introductions.

Mr. O'Brien reviewed the annual PPC calendar, including all monthly meetings, and both the Summit and Ministry Appreciation Mass events. Background on the PPC purpose, history and structure was reviewed. The PPC bylaws were referenced and questions about them were addressed. All PPC members were requested to sign confidentiality agreements.

Mr. O'Brien reviewed the community alignments with the team. Where possible, a veteran PPC member was paired with a new PPC member to act as the liaison team for a given ministry community.

Roles and Expectations of PPC Liaisons

Father Boland shared his perspective on the role of the PPC liaisons to the OLPH ministries. He touched on the value of liaisons understanding ministry direction, the extent of succession planning, and identification of new ministries that may have emerged within the parish community.

Update from the Pastor

Father Boland welcomed the new members of the PPC again, and thanked them for their service.

Reopening Process

It is great to be reopening. There are many ministries and the PPC seeks to connect with them. There are many new people in the community who have not yet been to OLPH due to the pandemic. There are many ministries that have not been able to meet in 16 months. We are a mission driven organization, leadership matters, and we are major collaborators in that process. We cannot be afraid of change or new voices. We are in a time of reflecting on rebuilding our parish community. We are not going back, but rather we are going forward. “We need to thrive, not simply survive.”

We are 2 months into phase 5. The impact of the Delta variant of the virus is being watched closely. People have a range of comfort zones, and we will continue to welcome them in a variety of ways. We will continue to have drive-in Masses and the live stream Masses. We will hold off on utilizing selected items that are passed or shared including Missalettes, order of service, and holy water in fonts. The technology of the parish continues to be upgraded. Much of school life will soon return to typical activity.

Renew My Church

Last week was the first meeting of the three committees of Renew My Church, including OLPH, St. Catherine Laboure, and the Catholic Community of Northbrook (St. Norbert and Our Lady of the Brook). Structural changes are not planned for our grouping. The goal of our grouping will be in the area of collaboration. Communication will be key. Schools will be addressed via a separate process. The OLPH school is thriving.

Sister Paulanne’s Needy Family Fund and New Hope Apartments

Sister Paulanne’s Needy Family Fund is supporting the New Hope Apartments program. The government matches the contribution 5:1. This will have a significant positive impact.

Other events that Father Boland mentioned include:

- On Sunday, August 15, the Feast of the Assumption, OLPH will dedicate the Statue of Our Blessed Mother in the Hellerman Garden
- On Tuesday, August 31, OLPH will be hosting the Seventh Annual Solemn Vespers for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (in conjunction with Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church)

Goal Setting

The PPC annual goal setting process was discussed. The group will give some thought to the appropriate goals for the year and discuss the topic again.

Finance Update

There is strong leadership in the Finance Council. During the pandemic, the PPP government loan process went well and the “Catch up Sunday” giving was effective. Sister Paulanne’s Needy Family Fund is well funded. At the end of the year, the overall finances looked good. Balanced budgets were established and submitted on time.

It was discussed that the OLPH school attendance needed to be capped last year, due to a combination of high community interest and Covid restrictions in place, and that the school is continuing to see a large influx of students.

SPRED Catechist Need

An overview of the Special Religious Development (SPRED) program was discussed and a summary sheet was distributed.

Closing Prayer offered by John Nicolau