

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2022, 7:30 PM Flavin Room**

PPC members present:

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

Approval of Minutes

The February meeting minutes were approved.

2022-2023 Officers

Mark Cullum, the PPC Vice Chairperson, led the meeting, as Tom O'Brien was ill and recovering. He was pleased to report that key PPC roles for next year have been filled. For 2022-2023, Sara Carsten will be the Vice Chairperson, Patti Lawler the Secretary, Bridget Baumstark the Financial Committee Liaison, and Tom O'Brien the Deanery Representative. The team expressed congratulations and gratitude to all of them.

Deanery Update

Susan Logan provided an update on the latest Deanery zoom meeting last week, which both she and Tom O'Brien attended. It included an update on the latest Archdiocese Pastoral Council meeting, and the report that the Archdiocese is financially stable. In person mass attendance down 40% from pre-Covid levels, although revenue is down around only 10%. 75 parishes are still struggling financially and the Archdiocese is helping them out, consistent with its mission to help the poor. 28% of parishes have been drawing on their savings during this challenging Covid time, and period of increased expenses due to inflation. The Archdiocese is trying to be more competitive with compensation, especially with teachers, and retirement benefits. They are still considering which buildings affected by Renew My Church consolidations will be sold, and the process of decision making is expected to go through December 2022.

The international synod was discussed. Monseigneur Pollard is coordinating responses for the Archdiocese, which have been requested by April 1, and will then be consolidated. Individuals are encouraged to review some context material online and then respond to the topic: What do communion, participation, and mission mean to me? The responses go directly to the Archdiocese. A link to the Archdiocesan web page has been shared in the daily OLPH e-newsletter. Making this opportunity more prominent in the e-newsletter, or in a separate message, was discussed. Terry Luc will be contacted to coordinate that enhancement for this week.

Lenten Stations of the Cross – Friday, April 1

The PPC will help lead the Stations of the Cross service on Friday, April 1. Readers will be Gretchen Zagzebski, Patti Lawler and Sara Carsten, and the cross bearers will be Mike Wycklendt and Steve Schmidt. An overview zoom meeting is planned tomorrow evening with Margie Andre, to coordinate logistics. Margie is planning to print the brochure that has been drafted, and Jacque O'Brien will be the cantor for the event.

Ministry Appreciation Event Update

Mark Cullum provided an update on the Ministry Appreciation Event, scheduled for Sunday, May 15. The event will mark the return of the 6 PM Sunday Mass to the OLPH weekend liturgical schedule, followed by a reception. PPC members have volunteered for specific roles and activities associated with the event and will continue to work on those.

2022-23 PPC Member Recruitment Plan and Update

Mark Cullum shared that the announcement of the open Parish Pastoral Council positions and request for applications has taken place. Two testimonials have been run, and another will be run this weekend. This year we are looking to fill five positions. We already have a number of candidates, and are collecting applications from others. Interviews are expected to occur in late April and May.

Other Topics

Angela Romero has taken on the full-time role of Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry. The PPC appreciates all that she has been doing and seeks to continue to support her in the new role.

It was discussed that the timing may be appropriate to return to having updates about selected individual ministries during each PPC meeting. The approach had been put on hold during the Covid period, and while other key topics were covered. This will be considered in future plans.

Closing Prayer offered by Mike Wycklendt