

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2020 7:30 pm via Zoom Conference**

PPC members present:

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

Approval of Minutes

Mike Wycklendt presented the August minutes to the members of the PPC. A motion was then made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Introduction to New Director of Finance and Operations - Mary Lynne Januszewski

Father Boland introduced Mary Lynne. Mary Lynne explained how she came to learn of the opening at OLPH and why she decided to take the job. She explained her background and expressed how pleased she is to have the opportunity to bring accounting and faith-based beliefs in her life together as she embarks on this next stage of her career serving OLPH.

Update from the Pastor

The Reopening Process - School and Religious Education

Father Boland reported that the school has opened thanks to the great work of the faculty and administration. The students have been terrific and have acclimated to the changes.

Religious Education will begin remotely in a couple of weeks.

Confirmations and First Communions

Religious Education confirmations and first communions were unique and intimate. There was an essence of the sacrament that sometimes gets lost in these pivotal moments with the young people. We have one more Religious Education confirmation scheduled.

In October, there will be several first communions for the children in the school.

Finance Update

In terms of the parish finance situation we had a rather high-level meeting with the diocesan finance folks. They are wanting to see how we're doing 6 months into the pandemic, and if there are any red flags.

With the school, we're basing all of our budgets on our best guess. The school lost 70-75 children for preschool, but we picked up about 30 children and have a waiting list of about 30-35 children. The school wants to stay at 17 students or less per cohort, so we're not taking children from the waiting list at this point.

On the parish side of things, collections were down 22%. By comparison, collections were down 20% at the same time last year. Many parishioners have gone out of their way to donate, but many parishioners have been out of the church for the past 6 months. Fundraising efforts are down, and there have been unbudgeted costs of between \$250-300k for COVID infrastructure/expenses.

We have choppy waters ahead. There is a financial recovery tax force. They are going to look at several months of restrictive realities. Even if there were a vaccine tomorrow, it would be several months before the church could open to full capacity. The parish may have to shift resources to make sure the parish is stable financially. Next Sunday, Fr. Boland will communicate to the parish our financial needs.

The Reopening Process for the Parish

The mass schedule will be changing in October. This weekend the parish welcomed our three seminarians for the teaching program (2 returning and 1 new). We will be trying to get them as involved as possible in this difficult time so that they can learn first-hand as much as possible.

Now that we are finished with 1st communions and confirmations, and have celebrated many of the funerals that were on hold, we may be able to have mass in the church on Saturday evening. If there is a relaxation on the need for surface sanitizing, then we may be able to have more masses in the church.

Christmas Masses

We are hoping to have a marathon of masses on Christmas; possibly eight masses a day so we can accommodate anyone who wants to come to church on Christmas.

Spiritual Leader Training

The current plan is to have spiritual leader training next fall. The PPC's involvement may be limited to sponsoring or sharing the invitation to the program. Bob Pirsein and Steve Schmidt offered to review ways the PPC could sponsor Spiritual Leader Training without directly controlling the ministry and will bring their findings for discussion at the next meeting.

Ministry Updates

PPC members have been contacting their assigned ministry leaders. The girl scouts, Men's Club, and Women's Club responded to outreach from John and Cindy. The Men's and Women's Club are frustrated with fundraising challenges. Several members of Spiritual Enrichment also received

outreach and acknowledged being contacted. Education ministries will be contacted later after the start of the school year has cleared.

Terms

Tom O'Brien explained the current status of PPC members' terms and walked the PPC through various scenarios. To put us back on track, two current members need to volunteer to serve an extra term. Interested volunteers should contact Susan Logan.

Summit Committee

Bishop Barron was unavailable for the Summit. The Summit Committee plans to invite Father Steve Katsouros to be the keynote speaker. Father K's ministry includes providing a means toward advance education for students in need. The Committee also agreed that Sister Paulanne should be invited to make remarks, and that they are hoping to get introductory remarks recorded from Cardinal Cupich.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Closing Prayer offered by Cindy Moody