

**OLPH Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2017**

PPC members present:

Fr. Jerry Boland	Y	Kevin Boyle	Y	Marty Guerrero		Bob Michels	Y
Fr. Nick Kostyk		Cathy Condon	Y	Mike Hood	Y	Cindy Moody	Y
Fr. Isaac Lara		Tim Daniels	Y	Mara Lindsay	Y	Bill Nelson	Y
		Laura Flentye	Y	Bill McCabe		Bob Pirsein	Y
		Maria Grable		Mark McKinley	Y	Rob Orr	Y

Opening Prayer *offered by MarkMcKinley.*

Approval of October Minutes

Mara and PPC

October minutes were approved by the Parish Council

Youth Ministry Update

Randy

Randy will attend a future meeting to discuss Youth Ministry Updates

Communication Update

Mike

Melissa will attend December meeting. Discussion will include the possibility of forming a communications team to work through communication plan for the Parish and ongoing communication ideas/initiatives.

Mike met with PPC members from parishes in our Renew My Church grouping. Ongoing goal to develop and nurture relationships with parishes in our grouping and to schedule a joint meeting with PPC members from other groupings

Summit Debrief

All

General discussion/reflection regarding logistics, attendance and content of the Summit. Father Boland expressed importance of community focus on Youth Ministry, regardless of whether you have teen aged children. Fr. Boland also shared that he received positive feedback about the Summit. Fr. Boland acknowledged and appreciated the positive energy generated by the Summit and the topic of Youth Ministry at OLPH.

Bob Michaels created a template to summarize and organize Summit reflection feedback. PPC members shared feedback from Summit reflections

General themes included:

- Gratitude for the invitation to the Summit- broader range of invitees this year
- Small group masses
- Small group scripture study for youth
- Create connections between ministries and youth
- Make Kairos more accessible, offer more retreats during the year
- Specific youth liturgy - focus youth liturgy homily of issues/,messages that are relevant to youth
- Masses and homilies focused on encouraging parents to be role models for their children
- Parents model the importance of faith through attending mass and participating in ministry work
- Empower, engage, embrace teens, “meet them where they are”
- Develop technology ministry run by teens
- Teen blog on website or space for teen reflections in weekly bulletin/eBLAST
- Daily/weekly email to parents of teens
- Share video of Fr. McGrath’s talk with parents and youth
- Parishioners without teens are looking to get involved with youth as well
- Encourage/engage parents so that they, in turn, will encourage/engage their own children. Parents are the most significant influence on the youth.
- Goal- to weave youth outreach into our Parish communications/invitations
- Service and Kairos retreats as meaningful ways to engage youth
- Encourage youth to invite one another , Each One Bring One for youth

Discussion points included ways to engage/communicate with adults/parents and encourage connection with youth. Further discussion regarding the Kairos retreat and its structure, content and connection to Catholic faith. Kairos retreats through OLPH fill up quickly, need for more retreats throughout the year to enable more youth to attend/participate. Ongoing goal is to emphasize the importance of faith formation for our youth and to encourage/facilitate youth connection to faith community.

Parish Council will work to create a document with Summit content summary and ideas/insights and goals that emerged from the Summit. Idea to formulate a write-up for the bulletin/weekly email regarding summit content and goals moving forward.

Parish Council and service, what’s next?

Mike, Laura, Mara

Mike introduced the idea of “Spring into Service” PPC sponsored Spring service project . Ministries with separate projects, a day of service to highlight ministries and invite parish community into service. Idea to sponsor a visit to the Greater Chicago Food Depository in the city or Waukegan. Additional idea to prepare and serve dinner at Catholic Charities.

Transformation

Rob

Each One, Bring One continues to grow and thrive. Ongoing support from the priests would help generate more awareness of Each One Bring One. Transformation Webpage section is in the process of being updated. Transformation programming is moving toward smaller group initiatives/gatehrings. Idea to have small group series for parents with a variety of topics. (Ideas include Fr. McGrath's talk and parent involvement, science and God, Bullying.) Fr. Hickey will facilitate a talk during advent. Transformation team met with Fr. Hickey to plan a small group speaking series. Transformation team has been meeting with Randy to offer support for Youth Ministry initiatives. Discussion regarding how, where, when to share digital recording of Fr. McGrath's Summit talk. Further discussion about the need for a "place" to post/host recordings such as Fr. McGrath's talk and other digital ministry recordings. Digital Ministry could be a way to engage youth. Transformation Team met with Liturgy team and decided to separate Greeter and Usher Ministries.

Deanery Update

Bill

Notes submitted by Bill McCabe

First meeting took place 10/18 with Fr. Ron Kalas (pastor of SIJ) is Head of the Deanery. There are 10 parishes represented in our Deanery. We reside in Vicariate II (which represents approx. 60 parishes) and there RE 31 Deaneries in the Archdiocese. Deanery representatives reviewed the book *Church, Faith, Future*. Deanery news includes: Our Lady of the Brook/St. Norbert's have combined -- they have a very vibrant Youth Ministry and are happy to help us in any way they can in launching ours. They were very excited to attend the Summit. Bill will present/discuss the OLPH Ministry Resource Network Ministry at the next Deanery meeting in December.

Emergency Operations Plan

Mike

Ongoing formulation of EOP, team is making progress toward the completion of this plan. Buildings on campus are color coded, doors and rooms are in the process of being numbered, color coded signs will be posted on each building and throughout each building. Color codes help first responders in the event of an emergency. Greeter and Usher Ministry members will be trained in emergency response, who to call, AED equipment use and location, evacuation, shelter in place procedures.

Ministry Appreciation Mass

Laura

Laura introduced the annual Ministry Appreciation Mass and Dinner (2/25/18) sponsored by Parish Council. All ministry members are invited. This is an opportunity to celebrate the many incredible ministry participants in our Parish Community.

Pastor's Report

Fr. Boland

Fr. Boland emphasized the importance of focusing on small steps toward growth in our many ministries, although our goals are large, we can take small steps forward - “small steps lead to big movements.” CHRP retreats for men and women and Kairos retreat experiences are examples of how to make a large parish feel smaller, build community and enable our parishioners to feel more engaged, transformed and renewed. Discussion about supporting CHRP and Kairos participants in making connections to OLPH ministries after their retreats. Fr. Boland emphasized the importance of bringing people together, which in turn makes OL a vibrant example of Christ’s light.

Fr. Boland announced that several hundred families will get meals as a result of the generosity of parishioners, Women’s Club Food Drive and the hard work of Sharing Ministry Volunteers. Renew My Church is focused on creating vital, active, energized parish communities. Goal in the coming months is to gather PPC members from our grouping together. Fr. Boland also spoke on the issue of bullying, concerns have been expressed by administrators and families in school and RE communities. Fr. Boland expressed the importance of creating opportunity for learning and support regarding this issue. Idea to ask Terry Nelson Johnson to speak and provide resources for children and parents. Fr. Boland also discussed the importance of the Emergency Operations Plan as a way to ensure safety of all people on the OPLH campus. This will be an opportunity for parishioners to get involved in safety. Fr. Boland expressed gratitude for our vibrant parish community in the spirit of the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.

Closing Prayer *offered by Mike Hood on behalf of Bill McCabe.*