

## OLPH Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes, September 21, 2015

**PPC members present:** Margie André, Greg Bedell, Kevin Boyle, Nancy Detlefsen, Shannon Dowdle, Mike Hood, Elizabeth Hoshaw, Fr. Nick Kostyk, Dave Ludden, Bill McCabe, Mark McKinley, Bob Michels, Karen Navarre, Jim Riley, Julie Ruchniewicz, John Thissen

**Opening Prayer:** Kevin Boyle

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of August 17, were approved.

**Parish Transformation Process:** Shannon reported that we will begin the parish transformation process sometime after January 1, 2016. She said Bishop Kane was excited to hear that OLPH has decided to go through this process, which should last about six months. Fr. Jerry will talk about it briefly at the Fall Summit on November 7.

**Engagement Update:** Margie reported that when the Engagement Committee met on September 2, there was concern that the Engagement prayer was no longer being said at the Masses the first weekend of each month. It was decided by the Liturgy Committee that the prayer will now be read by the cantor right before the opening song and will be printed in the worship aide.

The Engagement Committee would like to encourage ministry leaders to use "The City" as a tool of engagement. The PPC Community liaisons have been assigned a liaison on the Engagement Committee that they can contact with questions or concerns from the ministry leaders regarding the software. Because of the desire of the Engagement Committee to promote "The City" as a tool of engagement, the PPC Fall Summit Committee has decided to make this a topic for discussion at the Summit on November 7.

**Summit Update:** Shannon distributed a draft of the Fall Summit agenda. The morning will be devoted to discussing ways our parish might incorporate ideas presented in the Pope's encyclical **Laudato Si**. Steve Swanson from The Grove will give a presentation regarding the environment. The afternoon will begin with a talk about "The City" given by Natalie Conseur. Following Natalie's talk, there will be an open discussion on using "The City" as a tool of engagement for our Parish. We will explore both the pros and cons of "The City" in regard to how it is currently being used by our ministries. The PPC Community leaders were asked to distribute a brief questionnaire regarding the use of "The City" to the ministry leaders.

There was resistance by some PPC members about using the Summit as a format to once again discuss "The City." However, there was also concern that after a year of using "The City," we need to assess the benefits and the drawbacks of the software in how it is meeting our Parish's needs and goals. As a result of our discussion, Shannon said she would speak to Natalie and perhaps have Natalie address the PPC regarding "The City."

**First Fruits Discussion:** Dave distributed copies and then read aloud Fr. Hickey's original letter in which he introduced the concept of First Fruits. Dave said that First Fruits challenges us to give back some of the gifts that we have been given. He reported that since the implementation of First Fruits, we are giving more to others, but the Parish is not always getting as much. There was much discussion about the pros and cons of First Fruits. Because many parishioners do not yet fully understand the concept, the consensus was that more consistent discussion and education is needed in regard to First Fruits and the Planned Offertory Program.

**Block Party Recap:** Shannon thanked Karen and Dave for putting together the banners for the ministry table. Elizabeth reported that many people came to the table, and they had 6 or 7 new families inquire about how they might be more engaged. Karen reminded Community liaisons to return filled-out forms to their ministry leaders so that those interested in joining ministries might be contacted in a timely way.

**Honorary Acknowledgements:** Shannon opened the discussion about ideas for honorary acknowledgements for Fr. Hickey and Sister Marie. Nancy Schwider will be consulted regarding the acknowledgement for Fr. Hickey. It was agreed that we need to follow-up and check whether Sr. Marie's acknowledgement is already in place.

**Pastor's Report:** Shannon spoke in Fr. Jerry's absence. She reported that Fr. Isaac should be returning from Mexico in a couple of days. The school and religious education are both off to a great start. There are 850 students enrolled in Religious Ed. There is a slight enrollment decline in the school, but this decline was also reflected in the public schools in Glenview. Shannon said that Sister Marie is thriving and appreciates cards and visits.

**Closing Prayer:** Mark McKinley

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:30.

**Upcoming Events:** The next PPC meeting will be held on Monday, October 19, at 7:30 p.m. in the Flavin Room.

The Fall Leadership Summit will be held on Saturday, November 7, from 8:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Techny Towers.