

Our Lady of Light Family of Parishes

Parish Council Minutes

Tuesday, 21 November 2023

List of members/representatives (for attendance): Dave Laurash, Michele Jakoboski, James Holahan, Fr. Brian Phelps, Skip Fromm, Carrie Naples, Jill Delaney Shal, Christine Winters, Betsy Brown, Megan Sparks, Raquel Von Handorf, Lisa Grunkenmeyer, Christine McGrath, Tony Deliberato, Stacy Stang, Jeanette Fromm, Leah Coghlan, Deacon Chris

Present: Dave Laurash, Michele Jakoboski, Fr. Brian Phelps, Carrie Naples, Jill Delaney Shal, Christine Winters, Betsy Brown, Megan Sparks, Raquel Von Handorf, Tony Deliberato.

Welcome and Opening prayer at PM by Father Brian

Approve October minutes (Betsy Brown, Christine W.) - approved by council members

Reports / Commission Updates

- Evangelization- Fr. Brian
 - did 1st Rescue Project geared toward Catholics who need a deepening of faith. John Ricardo, Acts 29 Apostolate
 - Christen getting together Alpha, Gifted and Called

- Worship
 - Tony Deliberato
 - Taize service on the 9th, Candlelight mass 12/7- vigil for Immaculate Conception (at St. Francis)
 - March 3rd- Mission, Vigil Project- dinner and presentation (at Incarnation- talk of moving it to St. Francis)
 - Advent- Journey to Jesus, encouraging watching video series, Tuesday morning and evening group to watch together, can also watch at home. Will see if Christen can announce at LifeTeen to encourage it. 7-week series in December/January
 - Fr. Brian- also XLT, Carols and Prayers for Advent season
 - Christmas morning is 1st Sunday of advent, Sunday evening is Christmas eve. Sat evening the 23rd, Sat evening masses. 8, 10, 11 am on Sunday the 24th. Afternoon and evening masses, down to 2 Christmas morning masses.
 - growing hospitality ministry at Christmas masses to help with parking, seating, overflow, technology, etc. Extra helpers needed.
 - October count up 158 on average over last year. We are growing.
 - On average, weekend masses should be 50% full. Using 27" seating standard, we're at 55-60% capacity on average.
 - Betsy B- how are we advertising Christmas mass schedule?
 - Fr. Brian- last year sent flyers to all households, displayed on electronic sign at Incarnation.
 - Dave L- Can we advertise in Dayton Live?
 - discussion of looking into it, and possibly local papers
 - Tony D- use announcements at mass to alert people to schedule changes.

- Love in Action- no report
- Principal's Report- no report

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- Finance- Fr. Brian
 - Doing well, trying to understand how the new ways of giving from IRA, current economic conditions affect income.

OLL Family Reports/Updates- Father Brian

- Staff Reports
 - Staff is migrating to the same office space, trying to find every bit of meeting room possible on the campuses.
- Pastor's Report/ Beacons of Light Update
 - Continuing the culture conversation from last month and benchmarks for the future.
 - 2027 is goal date to become one parish- what needs to be in place? what benchmarks do we need to have?
 - What are council's thoughts? What are the best things from each campus that we think need to move forward and grow?
 - Jill- how to fold in the unknowns such as priest limitations to these discussions?
 - Fr. Brian- this affects sacramental formation, vocations, etc.
 - Christine- several ministries are already coming together (St. Vincent DePaul, Right to Life, etc) which frees people up who could be involved in other things as well.
 - Fr. Brian- changes to marriage preparation. Dave- Can we have the younger couples volunteer and get more involved?
 - Dave and Fr. Brian- bring more youth into liturgical ministry and have more participation in mass. What are the "on ramps" for engagement and involvement?
 - Michele- key is not making it transactional, i.e. you had to do it in order to be confirmed.
 - Tony- the holy spirit needs to be involved. It needs to be a personal.
 - Fr. Brian- also need to help people cooperate with the holy spirit. How do we make Heaven present here and now? What are the everyday things in your life that are acts of love, holiness, and faith?
 - Betsy- how to manage fish fry, spaghetti dinner?
 - Fr. Brian-Those are run by the school, how can we maximize these, make them more about community building, faith-sharing. What does the event communicate to those coming onto our campus?
 - Christine- these are great hospitality opportunities, more is good.
 - Jill- what is an "on ramp" attached to that event?
 - Michele- start with "I want to get to heaven and I want to bring you with me." Different needs for different people.
 - Tony- need to conserve aspects of our Catholic culture as well as growth
 - Michele- distinction between formation and application
 - Monumentalizing our history, wins, as we make a transition
 - Dave- perhaps we should make a combined OLL Family Directory/Album/Yearbook
 - Michele- Humanizing the Beacons of Light Process- share stories
 - **Fr. Brian- need to start a committee to look into the yearbook idea.**
 - Merger vs. Amalgamation- Amalgamation (multiple parishes folded into one existing parish) is not a good option for us. Merger would combine the 2 parishes into a new parish. Church names stay the same, campus names stay the same, school names stay the same.

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- Old Business
 - Parish Council Deanery Convocation Dave Laurash
- New Business
 - No meeting in December
 - Michele- many opportunities to serve in the community where we could make an impact.

Adjournment (Carrie, Jill) at 9:02 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 16th, 2024