

Our Lady of Light Family of Parishes

Pastoral Council Minutes

Tuesday, 17 October 2023

Present: Father Brian Phelps, Deacon Chris Rausch, Dave Laurash, Michele Jakoboski, Jill Delaney-Shal, Tony Deliberato, Jeanette Fromm, Skip Fromm, James Holahan, Kathy Lammlein, Christine McGrath, Megan Sparks, Christine Winters

Absent: Christen Aquino, Betsy Brown, Sarah Chivers, Leah Coghlan, Kim Conde, Lisa Grunkenmeyer, Carrie Naples, Stacy Stang, Raquel Von Handorf

Welcome and Opening prayer at 7:32 PM by Father Brian

Minutes of the September Meeting were approved following a motion and second (Michelle, Skip), with corrections to the date of the blessing.

Reports/Commission Updates

- **Finance - Deacon Chris**

- Financially OLOL is in a good place.
- There was an unexpected expense incurred due to the recent St. Francis roof replacement.

- **Evangelization- Christine McGrath**

- 'How to make a big parish seem small?'
- Working on programs such as Awaken, Pietra, etc.
- Preparing for the upcoming Rescue retreat
- Working on marriage enrichment programs for post wedding support

- **Worship - Tony Deliberato**

- Blessing of the pets (Oct 7)
 - Nice attendance
- Marian Procession held at Incarnation (Oct 15)
- Liturgical Minister Convocation (Sep 30)
 - Would like to enhance communication in the future
- Candlelight services: Taize (Nov 9 and Feb 22), Mass (Dec 8 and Mar 7)
- Advent theme selected – ***Journey to Jesus***
- Christmas mass schedule has been determined
 - This year is logistically challenging because Christmas falls on Sunday.

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- Work continues to bring the two worship commissions together and merging the bylaws. Approval has been delayed due to illness.

- **Love in Action – Fr. Brian for Christen**

- Nothing new to report

- **Principal's Report – Fr. Brian for Leah Coghlan**

- Nothing new to report

Staff Report Updates:

- Unexpected personal situations are causing additional stress on the staff who are absorbing the resulting workload.
- Working to get staff co-located.
- To improve clarity, there was a request for the acronyms to be spelled out in the minutes. Deacon Chris will communicate to Debbie Fields to action the request.

Pastor's Report and Beacons of Light Update – Father Brian

- Discussion to prepare for the future. What type of culture should OLOL embody? What are the characteristics of a Disciple of Christ?
 - **Prayer, led by the Holy Spirit**, humble, actively engaged, friendly & loving, welcoming, flexible, engaged in the broader community, sense of ownership, accepting, generous, community leader, supportive, eager, collaboration
- **How get there?**
 - **Eucharist, Prayer, Holy Spirit**, lead by example, ministry can take leadership roles, promote involvement, outstanding communication, invitations, promote involvement through personal outreach, ask people to be involved, holiness, faith, ownership, Catechesis
- **What needs to be in place to be a better family of parishes (Structure)?**
 - Things are moving in the correct direction, but there are still some roadblocks in place.
 - There needs to be a better understanding of school for St. Francis parish.
 - The challenges with meeting rooms have offered opportunity for Incarnation parish members to learn more about the St. Francis campus.
 - Would like to eliminate remaining duplication such as two Vacation Bible Schools.
 - Would like to see the bulletin more fully integrated.
- Father Brian reiterated that neither the priest nor the archdiocese can close a parish. A very particular process must be followed.

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Old Business:

- Donuts-in-between (Oct 1) at Incarnation Campus was very successful for the people that came to the Parish Center. There were some lessons learned. For example, stronger communication on who is hosting. Attendees were not aware that the Pastoral Council was hosting. Thanks to Michelle for organizing and providing the full list of lessons.
- The Parish deanery convocation for council members (Oct 21) purpose is to discuss the role of the family/parish council, beacons of lights, and canon law aspects. Some council members reported issues with the registration link and were instructed to attend regardless.
- Christine M. reported that there was continuation on the end-of-life framework discussed at the previous PC meeting. Follow-up will continue once Stacy returns from her illness.
- There is a desire to bring back Children Masses. There are discussions in progress to work through the logistical challenges.
- There was discussion on how to be more welcoming to people who are not familiar with the Catholic rituals.

Motion to Adjourn (Skip, Christine) at 8:46 pm.

Father Brian closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Respectfully Submitted by: Jill Delaney-Shal