

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish**  
**Pastoral Council Minutes**  
**May 3, 2011**

**Present:** Father Arnold, Father McLean, Chuck Steele, Clem Purcell, Rachel Barron, Maureen Roche, Art Minadeo, Bernie O'Neill, Barb Smith, Bill Sharp, Jennifer Schuberth, Adam Novotny and Lisa Sliker (ex-officio), along with candidates Tom Kiefer , Kathy Gates and Marty Kersse

**Absent:** Pete Gobell (also absent were candidates Michael Steer and Karen Potter)

**Opening Prayer:** Father Arnold offered the opening prayer.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes for the April 5, 2011 meeting were approved.

**Introduction of Candidates:** All candidates and present Pastoral Council members introduced themselves. Clem reported the following information:

1. The bios and pictures are due to the committee by May 6<sup>th</sup>.
2. The printing should be finished and ready to enclose in the bulletin by May 9<sup>th</sup>.
3. The candidate bios will appear in the bulletins on May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.
4. The election will take place on May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.
5. Bernie and Adam will be leaving the Council.

**Pastor's Report:**

1. **New School Principal:** The new OLPH Principal is Rose Goeres who is coming from the Archdiocese of Seattle. She has a very strong educational background in both the public and Catholic school systems. She also has experience in fundraising, grant writing and service to the Archdiocese of Seattle serving on the accreditation team. Her family is relocating to this area. She was impressed with our Catholic identity. She will be joining us this summer in mid-July. Arrangements are being made to organize a visit for her on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> which will include a meet and greet. She will probably be arriving late Wednesday night, staying Thursday and leaving on Friday. Father would like her tour to include the parish in a way that will not be too overwhelming to her. Any ideas should be e-mailed to Father.
2. **Biblical Walk Through the Mass:** This program begins on Thursday and runs for five weeks. Its purpose is to get the parish ready for the changes in translation of the Mass that are coming this fall. Some have signed up to receive materials, others have signed up to watch the DVD at OLPH.
3. **Archdiocese Pilgrimage to the National Shrine in D.C.:** Takes place this Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. There is still room on the bus.

4. **First Holy Communion:** On April 30<sup>th</sup> 100 second graders received their First Communion at OLPH.
5. **Meeting with the candidates:** Father met with the group of candidates to explain the role of the Pastoral Council and to take bio pictures.

### **Status Reports:**

1. **Capital Campaign Fund Report:** Lisa reported on the progress of the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the campaign which began in September of 2008. At that point, we had reached out to all parishioners and had received 80% of our goal in pledges. There are some write-offs from the 80%. We are now looking at a shortfall between the amount pledged and the amount needed for the capital expenses. Since there is an Inter Parish Loan Fund, the finance committee is working to figure out what to take from where in order to get the best use of our money.
2. **ISPD:** Laura reported that Jim and Val have been slow to respond and have advised that there is a charge for their services. The committee is considering paying them to train the core members. Next Friday there will be a meeting to talk about the creation of the core team so that they will be ready for the fall activities.
3. **Parish Picnic :** Jennifer reported the following:
  - a. The Knights are doing the cooking.
  - b. The Girl Scouts are in charge of making snow cones.
  - c. The Boy Scouts will take care of the fire and the smores.
  - d. Barb Smith will be organizing face painting.
  - e. Larry Schuberth will be making the funnel cakes.
  - f. Ona Corkrin and Rachel Barron will be in charge of games.
  - g. Clem is preparing the flyer which will be in this week's bulletin.
  - h. Kevin Smith is lending his grill so that we don't have to rent this year.
  - i. Father is trying to organize a softball game with St. Paul's.
4. **OLPH School Projections:** Todd Arterburn gave a very eye-opening and thorough presentation on the "History and Projections of OLPH School Enrollment – 1990 – 2015". Some of the key facts were as follows:
  - a. Of our 1353 families, 120 are school families (9%) who contribute 17.6% of our total offertory.
  - b. Every time we lose a school family, we lose approximately \$12,000.00 in tuition and offertory.
  - c. Enrollment peaked in 1999 with 258 students (K through 8).
  - d. In 2010 there were 215 students enrolled.
  - e. The number of Baptisms peaked at 157 in 1995 and 1996.
  - f. In 2010 there were only 51 baptisms.
  - g. The number of Baptisms has fallen by 2/3 in the last 15 years.

- h. The number of First Communions peaked in 2000 at 170.
- i. The number of Confirmations is increasing.

Todd concluded that there is a direct correlation between the number of Baptisms and the number of students enrolled in OLPH.

**Commentary by Father McLean:** Father expressed his admiration of everyone's talents and dedication. He encouraged everyone to keep giving of themselves to the parish and not to lose sight of the spiritual aspect. He reminded us of the following:

1. We are still in the Easter season which is 50 days long and encouraged all to take advantage of this extraordinary time of grace.
2. The month of May is dedicated to Mary. He urged the Council to develop virtues like Mary and grow in trust of Mary.
3. He urged everyone to have a renewed appreciation of the gift that is Pope John Paul as he will possibly be only the third pope to be called great.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, June 7th

**Closing Prayer:** The closing prayer was offered by Father McLean.