

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish
Pastoral Council Minutes
September 6, 2011

Present: Father Arnold, Father John, Laura Randazzo, Lisa Sliker, Pete Gobell, Kathy Gates, Art Minadeo, Clem Purcell, Chuck Steele, Rachel Barron, Maureen Roche, Tom Kieffer, Barb Smith and Bill Sharp.

Absent: Jennifer Schuberth

Opening Prayer: The opening prayer was offered by Father Arnold.

Review and Approval of Minutes: The Minutes for the June 7, 2011 meeting were approved.

Pastor's Report:

1. **Hearts on Fire:** The young adult retreat was a great success. There were 150 young adults in attendance. Father John stated that it was very spiritually fruitful. There will be a follow-up retreat, "Festival of Praise", which will include adoration, prayer and praise and a social hour.

2. **Staff Changes:**

a. **Father John:** His assignment is shared between OLPH and UMBC (Campus Ministry). Father John has been ordained for three years. Father Arnold stated that typically when a priest is ordained for five years, he is assigned to his own parish so we only expect to be blessed with Father John for two years.

b. **Rose Goeres - Principal:** She is proving to be a very strong leader. She connected well with the teachers during their in-service week.

c. **Matt Malone - Director of High School and Young Adult Ministry**

Father Arnold stated that only three people on the present pastoral staff were at OLPH when he arrived - Judy, Sister Lorraine and Kristen.

3. **School Update:** There are 235 students registered for the 2011-2012 school year. This total includes 19 children in the pre-school (with a capacity of 20).

4. **Archdiocesan Update on land sale:** With respect to Parcel A, OLPH felt the Archdiocese had some shared responsibility. Father Arnold, Jon Smith and Bill Glover met with representatives from the Archdiocese in July, which led to a follow-up meeting between Father and the Vicar General. Last weekend Father Arnold was contacted by the Archdiocese with the following acknowledgements and offer:

1. They recognized shared responsibility.

2. They acknowledged our contributions to the Archdiocese as follows:

a. Cathedraticum

b. Exceeded expectation of the Archdiocese for the Lenten Appeal by 162%.

c. Hearts on Fire.

3. Agreed to pay ½ of the \$132,000 loan balance on the Parish Center.
4. Offered a better interest rate on our loan (Option 1: reducing the interest rate from 7.86% to 7% fixed or Option 2: a variable rate loan for 15 years). The Finance Committee is considering which of the loan options would be best for us.

5. **Summer projects at the parish:**

- a. **Water line:** Emergency repair had to be done the week of Hearts on Fire so that mass could be held in the Church. The good news is that some of the iron clad piping has some life left.
- b. **Creation of two confessionals:** Located in the room that previously housed the food pantry. Matt will come out with a crew to put up the drywall. The heating and air conditioning still need to be addressed for those spaces. There is the need for a wheel chair accessible size door. The space will allow the option of kneeling behind the screen or face-to-face with the priest.
- c. **Windows in the parish office:** The windows were original to the building. Since the windows were being held together with duct tape, they were in need of replacement.

6. **Introduction of missal changes starting 9-10-11:** Father Arnold and Father John will be introducing the changes gradually this fall. This Sunday they will talk about the Gloria in the homily. The mass parts that are sung will be introduced in September. The spoken parts will change with advent. There was a conversation about how to get parishioners to understand the words being presented in the Mass. Laura suggested that everyone e-mail Father with their ideas.

Future Meetings: The November meeting will change to the 15th; April will tentatively be on 4/3/12.

Fall Call: The fall call kick-off will be held in the Parish Center on Tuesday, September 13th at 7:00. There will be seven land lines available to callers. Laura prepared a script and an outline to be used for the calls. Laura stressed that these calls are not to be used for problem solving. Any concerns should be directed to the parish office. Callers are Kathy, Laura, Rachel, Tom, Pete, Barb, Jennifer and Maureen. Adam Novotny has also volunteered to help with the calls.

Closing Prayer: Father John offered the closing prayer.

Next Meeting: 10/4/11