

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish**  
**Pastoral Council Minutes**  
**January 4, 2011**

**Present:** Father Arnold, Father McLean, Chuck Steele, Clem Purcell, Pete Gobell, Rachel Barron, Maureen Roche, Art Minadeo, Adam Novotny, Bernie O'Neill, Barb Smith, Bill Sharp, Jennifer Schuberth and Lisa Sliker (ex-officio)

**Absent:** Laura Randazzo

**Opening Prayer:** The Prayer of Padre Pio was recited by all in attendance.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes for the November 2nd meeting were approved.

**Pastor's Report:**

1. **Thanks:** Father thanked Chuck for all of his hard work throughout the year, Barb for preparing the Minutes and everyone else serving on the Council for their dedication.
2. **Land Sale:** Father reported that we are in the process of negotiating with Williamsburg Developers on the sale of the land. The developer is waiting to finalize the contract until some county issues are resolved. The hope is for a February settlement. The proceeds will go toward paying down the parish debt. The Diocese is allowing us to wait to make payments on the loan until the land is sold with no accumulation of interest.
3. **Pre-School Program:** The former library, located in the Parish Center, is in the process of being converted into a Pre-School. Renovations have been made in Harrison Hall to house the library. There will be a Pre-School Open House on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00.
4. **Stewardship program:** Father shared that there has been an increase in the offertory since the stewardship appeal but that the number of contributors has stayed the same. We have also had a few more Parishioners sign up for Faith Direct. On the response card, 53 families stated that they were interested in Faith Direct. Lisa is in the process of identifying which of those are already using Faith Direct and which are interested in signing up.
5. **Distribution of Precious Blood at certain Masses:** Bernie stated his interest in having the Precious Blood offered in the back of church during the 9:00 and 11:00 masses. Father relayed the following concerns:
  - a. There are not enough faithful Extraordinary Ministers of Communion in order to have two more stations. He stated that the general rule for good traffic flow during Communion is to have two stations of precious blood for every one station of the body.
  - b. Adding two more stations in the back would cause a traffic flow problem.

Father suggested that any individuals interested in partaking of the precious blood sit in the front section. If there are mobility issues, the ushers should be notified to encourage an EM to take the precious blood to the back.

### **Committee Reports:**

1. **Hospitality Committee:** Laura previously sent the Hospitality Committee Minutes of the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting to all Council members for their review.
2. **Finance Committee:** Chuck distributed the Statement of Operations for July-November, 2010. He stated that a monthly financial statement will be distributed in the parish bulletin and posted to the parish website beginning in January.

### **Parish Census Update:**

Lisa prepared and distributed a Parish Statistics hand-out. She reported that of the 1,342 registered households in our parish only 700 have provided e-mail addresses, making it ineffective to relay information to our parishioners through e-mail. Lisa recommended that we form a Communications Committee to discuss the best options for distributing news to parishioners.

### **Ministry Program for Young Adult Parishioners:**

Rachel reported that she is planning a social event in Harrison Hall on January 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 9:00 for young adults between the ages of 18 and 35. The purpose of the social is for fellowship and to gauge the interest in future social outings. She received the names of 53 individuals from the parish census data and approximately 20 additional names from other sources. She will attempt to contact all by Facebook, e-mail or phone.

She researched local Catholic churches to see what programs are available in the area. Resurrection is one of the few churches that had website information for young adults. Its programs included Thursday night dinners and a program entitled Theology on Tap. She is hoping to have a regular event monthly at OLPH. She was also advised of a website, [www.baltimorecatholic.com](http://www.baltimorecatholic.com), that lists various activities in the archdiocese for young adults.

### **Assistance to Ministries/Increased parishioner activity:**

Father stated that recent research as to why people get involved in a faith community is that people will make a commitment to believing after having a sense of belonging to a group. The Council will reflect on ways to achieve our goal of getting others involved and discuss the matter further at a later date.

Chuck shared with the Council that Laura will be attending a seminar in Baltimore on March 1st entitled "Best First Steps". This one-day workshop teaches strategies for developing a successful development program.

### **Future Projects:**

1. **Multi-cultural Event:** Tabled at this time.
2. **Parish Picnic:** Jennifer volunteered to chair this event. After discussion, the Council settled on June 12th as the tentative date. Jennifer discussed looking into purchasing a grill instead of renting one every year.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> – 7:00 p.m.

**Closing Prayer:** Father McLean offered the closing prayer.