

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Pastoral Council Minutes
October 7, 2008**

Present: Father Arnold, Father Larry, James Hunter, Judy DeCraene, Bill Glover, Art Minadeo , Adam Novotny, Jackie Pellegrino, Crissy Reid, Bill Sharp, Lisa Sliker and Barb Smith.

Absent/Excused: Bernie O'Neill and Chuck Steele

Opening Prayer: The opening prayer was given by Bill Sharp.

Minutes: The September 2, 2008 Pastoral Council Minutes were approved.

Status Reports Addendum:

Status reports were previously emailed to all Council members and the following comments/questions were made/asked:

1. Electronic Fund Transfer (ETF)

Art questioned whether the Parish had to pay a charge for this service. Fr. Arnold indicated that there will be an annual fee of \$8,700.00 or \$725.00 per month and that ½ of that amount will be subsidized by the Archdiocese for the first year. Fr. Arnold offered the following information in justification of this expense.

The average family gives only 40 out of the 52 weeks of the year.

The company would provide all administrative tasks thus relieving the OLPH staff of additional duties.

The return on investment is 300% per year or a net gain of approximately \$35,000.00.

Bill Sharp asked about whether the special collections will be included in the ETF. Fr. Arnold indicated that the enrollment form will be specific to our Parish and will include all of the extra collections for which we presently have envelopes.

Timing was discussed for the start up of this service and it was decided that the information should go out to the parishioners around Dec. 1st and that it should be available for use on 1/1/09.

Status Reports:

1. Education Building Repair Update: All painting has been completed and the only item that is unfinished is the heating system. The final cost is expected to be between \$1.7M and \$1.8M. While our original budget for the repairs was \$1.54M, it was expected that the cost would go up with the addition of several items that were addressed while the building was opened up. The \$1.8M was within expectations. Father would like to have an open house this weekend after each mass, inviting all parishioners to walk through the school building and view the many changes that have taken place over the summer. He will be displaying enlarged photos showing the progress that took place over the summer. Crissy volunteered to organize the event (with the help of Judy, Barb and Bill S) which will include coffee and donuts after the 9:00 and 10:30 masses in Harrison Hall.
2. Parish Capital Campaign: Bill Glover reported that an advanced group meeting was held on 10/6. At the present time, there are 21 advocates (11 of which will work in the advanced phase. He stated that Fr. Arnold has been visiting parishioners from the leadership team and has received just short of \$.25M in pledges. The advanced advocates are to begin soliciting in about 2 weeks. On the weekend of October 18-19th, Fr. Arnold will be speaking of the Campaign at all of the masses.
3. Holy Works Fair: Art stated that most Council members agreed that spring is the best time of year for this event. James questioned when other parishes had their ministry fairs and suggested that Art research that point.
4. Mass Times Discussion: Fr. Arnold stated that after great consideration, he is favoring 4:30, 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 and 5:00 for the new mass schedule. It combined elements from both of the schedules surveyed. Due to the

focus and effort on starting the capital Campaign, a final decision will not be made until early next year. Since an announcement about the change will not be until next year, Bill G. suggested putting an announcement in the bulletin stating that the feedback to the survey was tremendous and that the schedule has not yet been finalized. Bill and James will prepare a copy of the announcement and give it to Fr. Arnold for proofreading. Once approved the announcement will be placed in the bulletin. They will also identify possible dates for implementing the new schedule.

5. St. Veronica-OLPH Parish Partnership Celebration: Scheduled for 11/22 at OLPH. Fr. Arnold said that Fr. Augustine of St. Veronicas is extremely grateful for the support given by OLPH to their youth. Because of this support, some of the youth were able to attend the World Youth Day. Council discussed providing a pot luck dinner and Bill G. suggested that we request help from other parish ministries like the Catholic Daughters and Knights of Columbus. James and Bill S. offered to organize this event with help from Judy.
6. Archdiocesan Haiti Gala: Scheduled for November 8th. Historically the parish has invited and paid for Council members and their spouses to attend. However, Fr. Arnold wants to be certain that if the parish pays, the money must come from the operating budget and not from the Haiti donations. He asked that all Council members contact him within a week to let him know if they would like to attend the Gala. Bill G. reminded all members of the basket of cheer which OLPH usually provides as a raffle item. Everyone who would like to make a donation should bring it to the next meeting.
7. Finance Committee: Since Chuck Steele was not present, there was nothing to report except what was indicated in the Status Reports Addendum. Fr. Arnold stated that he will be providing the annual report to all parishioners in late October.

New Business

1. Fundraising Review Committee: James suggested the need to have a committee to develop some guidelines for holding fundraising events at OLPH. Lisa volunteered to chair the committee but said that she could not begin until after December 12th as she is overcommitted at the present.

Open Forum

1. Christmas party – 12/2: Since Fr. Arnold will be offering penance on that date and will not be able to attend, Bill G. suggested that we combine our party with the school board and have it on the 9th of December. However, Father will be away on that day also. Jackie will ask the school board at the next meeting if they are interested in this and if so, select a date.
2. Guidelines for use of OLPH facilities: Fr. Arnold stated that there are no written guidelines in place but that there are specific requirements for using each area; for example, the boardroom is only for adult use, there are no heels allowed in gym and there is no food allowed in classrooms.
3. Field usage: Jackie has been pressured lately about the use of the fields. Father stated that he wants to have only the parish use the fields for a year and then see how much extra time would be available for outside usage for next year.
4. Eucharistic Minister and Altar Server issues: Jackie discussed the scheduling problems that the parish is having. She volunteered to call all Eucharistic Ministers to see if they are still in the parish and if they are still interested in serving as an E.M. Fr. Arnold stated that we have a software package for on-line scheduling that Lynne is in the process of learning how to use.

Pastoral Ponderances: Father Arnold stated that we have a new website host company and that our website is being transformed. The website is now OLPHParish.org. Lynne has been trained to post schedules and bulletins on the website. The staff is now maintaining the website instead of Bill.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Larry provided the closing prayer.