

Our Lady of the Lakes Pastoral Council Minutes

5.24.21

Chairperson, Peter Bemis called the Our Lady of the Lakes Pastoral Council Meeting to order at 7:53 pm.

Approval of the PC Minutes were done via email following the March 30, 2021 meeting.

Members Present: Father Gideon Buya, Chad Keller, Peter Bemis, Jacob Birenbaum, Jim Barton, Jennifer Delwiche, Pam Huiras, Rich Schwab, Rose Vander Velden, Antonette Zellmer

Members Excused: Gary Feider, Jenny Leider (technical failure prevented her attendance)

Guests present: Amanda Gronemeyer, Linda Guokas, Deb Hamm, Terri Schueller, Leon Jacoby

Guest Comments: Leon Jacoby stated: "I'd like to review some recent history. Several years ago, OLL discerned whether to merge with Hoy Rosary Parish. OLL Parish held a town hall style meeting that was well attended. Over 70% of the people voted to keep OLL a parish separate from Holy Rosary Parish. They wanted to stay independent in fact not just in name. Part of being independent is having our own Pastoral Council making decisions for our parish. I would like to be reassured with certainty that will always be the case."

In the discussion following Leon's comment, Peter stated that the OLL Pastoral Council does want to keep the OLL identity. Father Gideon stated that there is no plan of merging the parishes. The Prayer & Worship committees will meet jointly on occasion for planning worship calendars.

Committee Reports:

Prayer & Worship: The Family of Faith Prayer group has held some events including a rosary procession with 25 attendees. There was a Consecration to St. Joseph and a virtual pilgrimage to Lourdes. About 10 parishioners responded to the Ministry Fair survey. The little church library is being installed outside. The parish is in need of servers and ushers. The next Prayer and Worship meeting is June 7 at 6:30 pm.

Christian Formation/Evangelization: Adult Gift of Sunday discussion groups have started. There is a young adult bible study available on Monday nights at Mark Shiningers home. The virtual family nights went well. Next year, Confirmation will be held in fall on 10.16.2022 at Holy Cross. The next Christian Formation/Evangelization meeting will be on Thursday, August 19 at 6:30 pm.

Human Concerns: Pam Huiras is the new liaison to the Human Concerns committee. The next Human Concerns meeting will be on Tuesday, September 7 at 6:30 pm.

Stewardship/Outreach: The committee will be meeting the week of May 31.

Finance Council Update: The budget meeting report was shared. There is an \$11,000 increase over the past budget. The school is doing well with 104 students. About 1/3 of the students are from OLL.

There was a discussion about making the minimum suggested church support levels available on the DSOLL website. Terri Schueller will add this information to the website. Parishioners on fixed incomes or who are financially unable, will be asked to give what they can afford.

Old Business:

Pastoral Council Discernment: 8 candidates attended the discernment meeting. New members are Peter Bemis, Natalie Brochtrup and Bonnie Steffen. Officers and liaison representatives will be chosen at the July meeting.

Spiritual Growth Ideas: We will focus on spiritual growth over the next year. It was recommended to bring activities back before adding new things. Many ideas were shared and will be considered. To proceed, Father suggested that we have an Ad Hoc committee to decide how to structure the events in tune with the liturgical seasons. Deb Hamm and Peter Bemis will be on the committee. Amanda Gronemeyer will be on the committee and help with promotions. Pam Barton was suggested as another committee member.

Some of the activity ideas were:

- Walk to Mary in May
- Divine Mercy Chaplet from Good Friday at 3:00 each day until Divine Mercy Sunday with Mass and Reconciliation.
- Matthew Kelly talks
- Camp Gray Family Retreats
- Family of Faith Group
- Weekly discussion group to look at the readings for the upcoming Sunday Is being held on Tuesday at 9:30 am.
- Christ Pond Retreat Center
- JCC Day Camp
- Communion Service first Friday of the month
- Ask Deacon Malueg to present when he is ready.
- Pam Barton: Women of Faith group
- Lenten missions and soup suppers

New Business:

- Review and Approve OLL Council Norms Appendix: As of March 2, 2020 Archbishop Jerome ListECKi has approved the norms for both the Finance and Pastoral Councils. Norms are a guideline of acceptable and expected behavior that the Pastoral Council should adhere to. The norms define things such as, the responsibilities and makeup of the council, the nomination and election process, and committee oversight and makeup. All parishes are required to submit updated appendices using the current appendix templates. We updated some of the language to reflect the language

we are currently using in our parish. After council members have reviewed them further, they will be submitted to the archdiocese.

- There was a discussion about how to increase participation on our church committees. It was also suggested that there be a Pastoral Council member or a parish member added as a liaison to the school committee.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 26 at 6:30 pm at Holy Cross. Both past and new Pastoral Council members should attend this meeting. Individual parish meetings will be held at 6:30 pm with elections for the officer positions. The joint meeting will be at 7:00 pm. DS will bring hospitality for the joint meeting.

Jim made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 pm, Pam seconded. Peter led the closing prayer.

Opening prayer for next meeting: Peter

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Vander Velden, OLL Pastoral Council Secretary