

# **Our Lady of the Lakes Pastoral Council Minutes**

## **Monday, November 27, 2023**

### **1. Call to Meeting and Roll Call:**

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Peter Bemis

Members present: Peter Bemis, Chad Keller, Natalie Brochtrup, Amy Schmit, Lina Vorpahl, Bryan Bichler, Marilyn Sabec, Jenny Schwab, Leon Jacoby, Deb Hamm

Absent (excused): Gary Feider, Jacob Birenbaum

### **2. Guest Comments:**

Deb Poull provided a comment regarding the float for the holiday parades. Due to unforeseen circumstances, there will not be a float for this year's holiday parades. She expressed interest in continuing the process as a way to promote the parish. A design is being developed along with a budget/proposal for supplies and additional funding. Deb asked that this item be classified as an agenda item in the future so it could be actionable and could promote an exchange of ideas and discussion.

### **3. Committee Report Highlights (see website for recent minutes):**

#### **A. Prayer and Worship- Bryan Bichler-**

- Weekly Adoration is beginning at OLL starting Thursday, Nov. 30 from 5:00-7:00 PM.
- Eucharistic prayer- there are Eucharistic Prayer cards in the pews for individuals to use during Mass. We will not be praying the prayer collectively at Mass unless directed by the Archbishop or by the Pope as adding prayers to the Mass is not up to the discretion of the parish. The prayer could be prayed after the Rosary before Mass.
- There will be periodic announcements at both the Mass and in the bulletin calling attention to the prayer cards. The cards appear to be used by attendees and more cards are being ordered to supplement the ones being taken home by parishioners. This is a good problem to have.

#### **B. Christian Formation and Evangelization- Amy Schmidt**

- The committee is in the process of restructuring
- There are plans to incorporate elements of the Eucharistic Revival into Faith Formation classes.
- Council members are encouraged to read the book "A Biblical Walk Through the Mass" and return their book to the parish office.
- See Joint Cluster Council minutes for more information

#### **C. Human Concerns - Marilyn Sabec**

- Food Pantry promotion was discussed. Wheeled baskets were proposed to put out for donations. There will be a reverse collection in January where slips with requested items will be distributed after Mass for collection the following week.
- Gables on the Pond stockings are in progress. There are 40 residents and 9 homebound persons who will receive stockings. Interested parishioners were invited to contribute items for stocking stuffers. Slips were handed out after Mass in November and stockings will be distributed for St. Nick's Day.
- The Advent Giving Tree will be placed in church with ornaments asking for donations. Donations will benefit the Random Lake Food Pantry, DSCS, and Mary's Room.

#### **D. Stewardship/Outreach- Leon Jacoby**

- Hospitality will be held on Dec. 17, 2023 following Mass.
- There will be an Ecumenical Toy Drive on Dec. 17th. Kapco, Inc. provides 2 gifts per child. Gloves, hats, and blankets will also be given out.
- The Ecumenical Thanksgiving service was held at the High School on Nov. 22, 2023. Approximately 80 people attended.
- The series "Jesus and the Eucharist" continues on Sunday evenings from 6:00-7:30 PM through December 10, 2023.

- A Night in Bethlehem will be held in conjunction with the Night of Lights in Random Lake on Friday, Dec. 1, 2023 from 4:00- 8:00 PM.
- The Christian Women's Cookie/Bake sale will be held on Dec. 17, 2023 in conjunction with Hospitality.
- The parish will give the book "Beautiful Eucharist; A Collection of Reflections by others" by Matthew Kelly to attendees at the Christmas Masses.
- The Christian Women's cluster Christmas Party will be held on Dec. 10, 2023.

**E. Finance- Jenny Schwab/Lina Vorpahl**

- The tree at the Cascade site is now down.
- The furnace has been installed at the Dacada site.

**4. Old Business:**

- a. The annual meeting was held on Nov. 12, 2023 following the 8:15 AM Mass in the church. The minutes will be published to the website.  
It was suggested that committee details and any dates, times, etc. should be integrated into a handout as there is a lot of information disseminated.  
The meeting was long, and it would be best to keep it to an hour or less.  
It would be interesting to include average mass attendance figures with the other parish data at the meeting.
- B. Float advertising- see guest comments. The council agreed that future discussion would be beneficial and should include discussions about design, cost, and financial contribution from the parish.

**5. New Business:**

- a. There is a lot going on in our parish. Encourage others to become involved, read the bulletin, newsletters, e-mails with cluster events, etc.
- b. There was a suggestion to have someone take video or pictures of the Night in Bethlehem for future use at hospitality or other parish events.

**Opening prayer for next meeting:** Amy Schmit

**Closing prayer for next meeting:** Bryan Bichler

Marilyn Sabec provided the closing prayer for the Nov. 27, 2023 meeting.

**6. Next Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the OLL chapel beginning with the Joint Council meeting with the OLL meeting to follow (approximately 7:30 PM).

**7. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Marilyn Sabec, seconded by Bryan Bichler. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Natalie Brochtrup  
OLL Pastoral Council Secretary