

Our Lady of the Lakes Pastoral Council Minutes

9/27/21

Chairperson, Peter Bemis called the Our Lady of the Lakes Pastoral Council Meeting to order at 8:10 pm.

Members Present: Father Gideon Buya, Gary Feider, Chad Keller, Peter Bemis, Jacob Birenbaum, Jim Barton, Natalie Brochtrup, Pam Huiras, Jenny Leider, Rich Schwab, Bonnie Steffen, Antonette Zellmer

Guests present: Leon Jacoby

Guest Comments: Leon Jacoby stated his opinion that the Outreach Coordinator Position should remain as a parish level position rather than become a cluster position. He indicated: It is my hope that the position of Our Lady of the Lakes Outreach coordinator remains a parish position not a cluster position because it strengthens parish identity. If Divine Savior Parish would like to (utilize) her help and it's alright with OLL, she can do it and Divine Savior Parish can reimburse OLL. He also presented an email exchange between Lowell Barrington and himself that discussed the issue.

Pastor's Report / Worship Update: Father Gideon:

Fr. Gideon provided a response for Mr. Jacoby's position. He reiterated that the identity of the parish does not rest in one person or one position. It is the responsibility of the parish/cluster to determine if the position is needed, and what that position would look like.

Discussion ensued in regards to the position:

- *Would the new person be able to coordinate between two parishes?
- *What is the job description vs. what the current coordinator did? What was related to the job and what was done as a volunteer?
- *Evaluating and examining the job description is necessary before making any decisions.
- *Need to keep in mind what is best for the parish and the cluster as a whole.
- *How would the position as a cluster position affect outreach at OLL? Would the new coordinator be able to provide equal attention to both parishes? Would they "favor" one parish over the other? Would they be able to represent OLL in our community?

*Caution in looking at the job description and comparing to a person- need to keep the focus on the description rather than on what the previous employee brought to the table.

*The ultimate goal should be inviting people back to church- regardless of where that may be. We should always ask ourselves- What would Jesus do? How would He respond?

Committee Reports: Full minutes are available on the parish website

Prayer & Worship: The Mass schedule is back to normal. There will be a pet blessing on 10/10 at 2:15 at the Holy Cross Chapel. There will be an All Saint's Tree at OLL and a table with candles representing parish member that have passed. Confirmation will be celebrated in Fall, 2022. The committee is working on a theme for Advent and Lent. The recommendation is to pray the prayer to St. Michael at the conclusion of the year of the prayer to St. Joseph.

Christian Formation/Evangelization: Families like the flexibility with times and locations for Faith formation. One goal is to improve involvement of parents of children involved in Faith formation. There are 2 candidates for RCIA. The Young Adult bible study continues to meet at Mark's home. Adoration at OLL will be the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Human Concerns: How can we help the Women's Care Center- Anchor of Hope? There will be a blood drive on 10/11. Appointments necessary. Gift bags for the residents of Gables on the Pond are being planned.

Stewardship/Outreach: Events that have been on hold due to Covid are resuming. New committee members are welcome.

Finance Council Update: The house on the Dacada site is for sale. A new mound and septic system are in the process of being installed. The lot in Cascade was sold to Wild West Studios.

The budget was approved. The Capital Campaign will address: new doors on the back of church, a sound system, repair to cracks, and the remainder of the roofing.

Old Business:

- Spiritual Growth topics were discussed during the joint meeting.

New Business:

- **Annual Meeting-** set for 11/14 in the OLL gym. Possibly in conjunction with Hospitality. A substitute would be necessary for the 10:00 Mass. All council members should plan to attend.
- **Bulletin Addition Planning-** Food Pantry updates (they have food, could use paper items), Scrip updates, etc. Discussion about the bulletin indicated that: Not all parishioners are tech savvy and many miss email or social media updates. If there are items that need to be in the bulletin, please contact the parish office. There will be space available for items.
- **Other New Business:** A ministry fair is being contemplated during the Lenten season in conjunction with a soup meal.
The idea of drafting a letter to parents with small children offering support as they bring young families to Mass was discussed. It could be put in the bulletin and provided to parents at Baptism classes. Additionally, a letter/card welcoming everyone to Mass was discussed.
Some families are continuing to utilize the overflow space provided for those who wish to socially distance. There are approximately 10-12 people consistently using the space and are grateful for the opportunity to attend Mass while taking Covid precautions.

Next meeting: 11/22/21 at 7:00 pm at Divine Savior (the Holy Cross Chapel Site).

Divine Savior will be hosting the hospitality. Joint meeting with OLL meeting to follow.

Pam Huiras will provide the closing prayer for the OLL meeting.

Bonnie made a motion to adjourn at 9:22 pm, Jenny seconded. Antionette led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Brochtrup, OLL Pastoral Council Secretary