

**Our Lady of Grace
Parish Pastoral Council (“PPC”)
Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2021**

ATTENDEES:

Priests	Father Kevin Finnegan			
2021	Doug Fulton (Chair)	Mary Absolon	Sharri Harmel	
2022	Mike DuMond	Art Hays	Steve Schreiber (Vice-Chair)	Lucy Winter
2023	Ashley Biwan	Angela Ciagne (Secretary)	Ben Ganje	
Trustees	Chip Fuhrmann	Monique Maddox		

Welcome and Minutes Approval

The PPC Chair welcomed the members to the Zoom meeting and Father Kevin began the meeting with a prayer. The members approved the November PPC minutes as drafted.

Ministry Conversation: Pastoral Care, Social Concern and Justice

Mary Absolon facilitated a moving discussion with Pastoral Care, Social Concern and Justice Ministry leaders, Beryl Schewe, Director of Pastoral Care and Melissa Miller, Director of Parish Life and Social Justice. These ministries are touching the lives of volunteers, and those in need, on a daily basis in many different ways, including funeral hospitality, grief support, mental health, abuse victims and survivors, communion to homebound prayer shawls, Loaves and Fishes and Sharing and Caring Hands, just to name a few. Similar to other ministries, these ministries have had to reinvent their outreach efforts during the COVID pandemic. Senior Connect, a weekly call to senior parishioners and drive through events including October and Christmas communion as well as upcoming Ash Wednesday and Easter communion are a few of the ways these ministries are staying connected with vulnerable members of our community during the pandemic. Making Jesus Christ Known and Loved through phone calls and ZOOM are just not the same as face-to-face connection. Nevertheless, these ministries have adapted during these challenging times and will continue to adapt and respond on an ongoing basis to whatever our future brings. For Making Jesus Christ Known and Loved is our lifeline and nourishment.

New business

Liaison Report: 75th Anniversary

Art Hayes and Sharri Harmel presented an update on the 75th Anniversary celebration that kicked-off in November. The 75th Anniversary committee has generated many ideas for our parish community to celebrate, however given the challenges of gathering people together to celebrate during a pandemic, plans are paused as the pandemic unfolds.

Men’s Club Gala

Dave and Sarah Schliesman, 2021 OLG Men’s Club Gala Chairs, shared a presentation for this year’s Gala; Together At Heart. While the Gala will be virtual this year, instead of in person at Interlachen Country Club, this allows many more people to participate this year, including the live stream mass community. This year’s Fund the Need will focus on Safety and Wellness and includes a new sidewalk from the Eden Avenue entrance to the church front doors for parishioners and school children to walk

more safely through campus, as well as safety landscaping along the top retaining wall by the garage/driveway and an outdoor gathering space for the priests.

PPC New Member Task Force

Art Hayes provided an update on new member efforts. While December's monthly new member meeting was a virtual presentation, future monthly meetings are planned to be in person after the 9:30am Sunday mass. Quarterly socials for new parishioners are also being planned with the next one currently scheduled for April 27, 2021.

Other Discussions

- Parishioner Engagement – Post-COVID: The Council discussed ways to engage parishioners returning to the parish community once COVID restrictions begin to lift and agreed that planning should commence so that we are ready when the time comes.
- Recruiting for new PPC members to join the Council in June will begin soon; Council members agreed to use a similar process as what was used for 2020 recruitment.

The PPC meets the second Tuesday of the month at OLG. The Council Chair is Doug Fulton and the Vice-Chair is Steve Schreiber. If you have ideas or issues that you would like to bring before the Council, you may reach out to Doug at 612-209-4208 or Steve at 507-276-6081. More information about the PPC, its members and its mission can be found on the OLG web site: <http://www.olgparish.org/parish-council/>.