

**Our Lady of Grace  
Parish Pastoral Council (“PPC”)  
Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2020**

**ATTENDEES:**

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

**Welcome and Minutes Approval**

Father Kevin started the meeting with prayer. The PPC Chair welcomed the members, and members reviewed and approved the September PPC minutes as drafted.

**Ministry Conversation: Adult Faith Formation**

Sean Lavell, Pastoral Associate for Mission and Discipleship, led an engaging discussion of Adult Formation. Adult Faith Formation is a three-part ministry that includes Adult Formation, Engaged, Married and Family Formation, and Young Adult. There has been significant growth this past year in the Young Adult program, as Kory LaCroix shared, and in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (“RCIA”), including Young Adult small group participants, some of whom have decided to join the church through RCIA. Sean also presented the key takeaways from the Disciple Maker Index survey taken by over 700 parishioners in February. Survey results indicated the top three responses to celebrate are my parish helps me grow spiritually, I would recommend my parish to a friend, and my parish communications are available and accessible to parishioners. The top three opportunities relate to frequency of pastoral care and spiritual direction, sharing the story of Jesus with others, and the pace of spiritual growth. The survey also found that approximately half of the respondents wanted to grow in their spiritual life. This will be a focus area for Adult Formation going forward; discussion followed regarding what these results mean how the parish can respond in meaningful ways.

**New business**

***Liaison Report: School-age Faith Formation***

Angela Ciagne presented the School-age Faith Formation liaison report to the Council. School-age Faith Formation includes Sunday School and Grades 1-5, Encounter for Grades 6-8 and Youth Ministry (Grades 9-12). Highlights for this ministry, include: 1) working very closely with the school this year and mirroring the school’s COVID protocols since Faith Formation uses the same spaces as the school, 2) a decrease in Faith Formation participants in all age ranges and 3) an increase in the number of new, especially young adult, volunteers. Top opportunity areas include planning second grade First Reconciliation and First Communion sacraments during the pandemic and understanding and responding to the significant decrease in Sunday school enrollment which is down over 50%. This ministry is the featured ministry in the November meeting and looks forward to discussing how we can make School-age Faith Formation more visible to the larger community parish and increase Faith Formation families’ identity in the parish community.

***Men’s Club update***

Chip Fuhrmann, provided an update of the OLG Men’s Club activities. The Tree Lot will be opening a week sooner this year, on November 20, and will go until until a few days before Christmas or the trees

are gone. Due to the extended hours, extra volunteers will be needed for this fun holiday OLG tradition. Chip also indicated that the Gala will be virtual this year due to COVID, however that means that more people will have the opportunity to participate as the event will not be limited to the space available at the venue.

### ***Advancing our Mission (“AOM”) campaign***

Joe Fitzgerald, Co-Chair of the AOM Continuation Committee, gave the PPC an update on the AOM campaign. The initial campaign has been very successful in redeeming the pledges that were made. Of the initial \$20.0 million the campaign raised, about half has been redeemed and 95% of participants have returned at least a portion of their pledge. Efforts to raise the remaining amount \$6.0 million kicked off in October with the new priest residents as the epicenter of the fundraising events. The remaining amount is anticipated to come from key donors and matching gifts, strategic fundraising targets and a fundraiser in Maureen Trenary’s honor.

### ***PPC 2020-2021 Goals***

The Council discussed its goal to increase engagement with the parish by attending multiple masses to connect with fellow parishioners, specifically Council members’ experiences attending masses in September and the availability of October and November signup sheets.

The meeting concluded with a socially distanced tour of the new priests’ residence.

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/>.