**Our Lady of Grace**

**Parish Pastoral Council (“PPC”)**

**Meeting Minutes of April 19, 2022**

**ATTENDEES:**

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| **Priests**  | Father Kevin Finnegan  | Father Nathan Hastings (absent) |   |   |
| **2022** | Steve Schreiber (Chair) | Art Hays  | Mike DuMond  | Lucy Winter (absent)  |
| **2023** | Angela Ciagne (Vice-Chair) | Ben Ganje  |  |  |
| **2024** | Caron Trierweiler (Secretary) | Bill Egan | Drew Pearson |   |
| **Trustees**  | Chip Fuhrmann  | Monique Maddox (absent) |   |   |
| **Guest Attendees** | Steve Bonello (absent) | Sean Lavell | Kori LaCroix |  |

**Welcome & Prayer**: Father Kevin began the meeting with prayer. The PPC Chair, Steve Schreiber, welcomed the members to the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**: Angela Ciagne asked for comments on the March meeting minutes. The members approved the March minutes as written.

**Ministry Reflection: Mission & Discipleship**

**Sean Lavell, Pastoral Associate for Discipleship & Mission**

**Kori LaCroix, Associate for Mission**

* How can we make OLG even more welcoming? We are eager to welcome & listen, but our call must be to also actively seek out the missing members of our parish family. The parish needs to be where people today encounter Jesus and learn about His love.
	+ The feedback is we are good at welcoming at Mass with greeters and Father Kevin shaking hands prior to mass.
	+ Need to consider after the New Parishioner Sunday welcome session how to get new parishioners to stay engaged and connected
	+ There are over 400 families in our school and how do we connect them to the parish and our sacraments
	+ Everyone is at a different place in the faith journey. How do we help others take the next step in their faith and in the parish community
* 3 Images of a home: Entry Way, Kitchen Table, & Living Room
	+ Entry way – “Guest”, we don’t know this person but we’re extending the invitation and warmth; hoping to build trust, inspire conversion, and change their mind about Jesus. Entry ways are many such as Sunday school or marriage preparation
	+ Kitchen table – “Friend”, next level of intimacy where we are building an authentic friendship, cultivating community, and inspiring belonging. In the church, this step looks like people feel known by name and are plugged into attending mass and parish events
	+ Living room – “Family”, next level above “Friend”. Family might not knock on the door, but rather let themselves in the home, help themselves to a beverage and sit in your living room. So, the church concept is that this person feels like they truly belong, they are committed to attending event programming, making even more connections with others, and moreover, are apostles in mission spreading their own faith and announcing the good news.
	+ The goal is to move parishioners from being welcomed to being made to feel like family. And the question is how do we do this and reach the end goal of feeling like you’re truly a part of the parish?
* Discussion Questions for PPC:
	+ How do we help every parishioner encounter Jesus and learn about Jesus’s love?
	+ What are adult pathways for parishioners to encounter Jesus and experience His love?
	+ Where do relationships fit into this?
* Key takeaway is to continue to grow small groups because they are successful in providing the welcome, connection, authentic relationship, and continual spiritual growth in community with others

**Standing & Follow Up Items:**

1. ***Synod Update*** (Steve Schreiber)
* Father Nathan and 2 OLG parish representatives will meet, along with other assembly members, for the Synod Assembly on Pentecost weekend, June 3-5 to dig deeper into the 3 Archdiocesan Focus Topics.
	+ Forming parishes that are in the service of evangelization
	+ Forming missionary disciples who know Jesus’s love and respond to his call
	+ Forming youth and young adults in and for a Church that is always young
1. ***Return to Mass*** (Mike DuMond/Art Hayes)
	* ***Engagement Follow-Up*** (Art) – There is not one size fits all as we continue review engagement strategies of getting people in the door, cultivating community/belonging, and establishing roots for our parishioners. Particularly for new members who start in the New Member Sunday Welcome, we’re reviewing how to get them involved in parish life. The goal to have specific tactics for young families by end of year July and have ready to roll out in August when the pre-school opens.
	* ***Reflection on Easter Services*** – The entire week was magnetic, and parishioners were thrilled to be with so many other people worshipping. Easter Vigil and Easter attendance was approximately 3700. Pre-covid, closer to 5000. We’re at 85% attendance of where it was been pre-covid.
	* ***New Parishioner Sunday PPC volunteers*** April: Drew & Angela; May 22nd: Caron & Art
	* ***Coffee & Donuts*** (Mike) – recruiting someone to help; could be once a quarter
2. ***AOM*** (Bill Egan/Father Kevin)
	* ***Close the Gap Update*** (Bill) – Total campaign goal is $28.5M to reach the finish line goal to complete kitchen & cafeteria, church restrooms, and church sitework. With the current standing of $26.9M we have achieved the link buildings, build preschool, and complete the Parish Activity Center. We are currently asking for pledges to close the $1.5M gap.
	* ***Other Details*** (Father Kevin) – Expressed his gratitude for the generosity of parishioners. During the Dedication Week event, the planning team is working on ways to honor donors at all levels.
3. ***Admin/Finance Updates***
	* ***Budget Update*** (Chip Fuhrmann) – Deacon Bob is working on the latest budget revision and tweaking headcount. The key message is that budget is on track and expenses are less than what we had planned for.
	* ***Staffing Updates*** (Father Kevin) – A candidate for Youth Minister is being interviewed. Interviews are completed for the Social Mission/Outreach and an offer will go out soon. There is an opening for Front Desk Office Staff person and the school has a handful of teacher openings that will be announced soon. The preschool has hired 15 people.
4. ***PPC New Member Recruiting Update*** (Angela Ciagne)
	* ***Process & Timing Update*** - The call list had 22 potential candidates, and 14 candidates replied with written responses and want to be considered for the Council. PPC will give its recommendations to Father Kevin and he will discern the next persons to serve. Candidates not chosen will be asked to fill other needs on committees and roles needed in the parish. Proper follow-up with every candidate is key to ensure their gifts and charisms are properly used.

**New Business**

1. ***School Update*** (Father Kevin)
	* ***Search Process, Timing, Vision*** – Keep praying for the school and its transition. Partners in Mission have completed 10 focus groups and a survey was sent to all school and parish families. Prospectus on the school and the job description is being finalized to solicit candidates. Head of School will be hired first, and this person will have input into the selection of the principals for elementary and secondary. The Head of School will represent the school community, fundraising, communication, face to the alumni, develop a team, and have knowledge of running a business.
2. ***Liaison Reports & Impromptu Reflections from Ministries***
	* ***RCIA Candidates Welcome*** (Angela) – Each Council Member will send a note of congratulations and welcome. Also, use the prayer cards to pray for this person’s initiation into the Catholic Faith over the next several weeks and months. PPC will follow up in again in about one month with a phone call or email.
3. ***Wrap up & Closing Comments***
	* ***Father Kevin’s Closing* Remarks** – commended Steve in allowing Angela to run the meeting. Father Kevin closed the meeting in prayer.

**Contact Us**: The PPC meets the second Tuesday of the month at OLG. The 2021-2022 Council Chair is Steve Schreiber and the Vice Chair is Angela Ciagne. If you have ideas or issues that you would like to bring before the Council, you may reach out to Steve at 507-276-6081 or Angela at 612-616-5985. More information about the PPC, its members and its mission can be found on the OLG web site: <http://www.olgparish.org/parish-council/>.

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