



OLPH PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

March 8th, 2017

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05PM by chairperson, Maureen Landry; the following members were in attendance:

Father Jack	Robert Gaudet	Mary Ann Platz
Jason Bodnar	Leta Shannon	Monica Friesen
Maureen Landry	Barb Kamstra	Ron Dick
Helen Doyle	Linda Karpala	Henry Gutierrez {guest}

2. The opening prayer was led by Jason

3. The agenda was accepted as distributed

4. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed

5. Guest Speaker: Henry Gutierrez from Couples for Christ presented information on the program, and a handout booklet to all members. Couples for Christ is a movement intended for the renewal and strengthening of Christian family life. CFC started in the Philippines in 1981, and has blossomed into a worldwide ministry. The program starts with a course on the basics of Christianity; after the course, people are invited to join Couples for Christ. There is a continuing program of formation, which includes teachings, recollections, and retreats. CFC was recognized by the Vatican in April, 2005. CFC was established in Edmonton in 1995, and now has 1502 members; they are involved in charity works, and participate in the pro-life prayer vigil in our city. Their theme for 2017 is: Stand firm in the Faith. Read their brochure, and be prepared to discuss in April how the program may work in OLPH.

Also, consider how we may integrate the Philippine community into other programs in our parish.

6. Faith Discussion: No Tabernacles necessary was discussed; in the early days of the church, tabernacles were not physically present as they are today; the real presence of Christ can be seen in the faces of the faithful who receive the body and blood of Christ; communion is meant to bring a relationship between us and God, and others in the community; we are called to serve others in our midst and communion helps us in that task.

For next meeting, read: Our Disposable Culture.

7. Pastor's Report: Father Jack advised that he, Father Raj and Father Pierre attended the recent Religious Education Conference in Anaheim; there were approximately 45,000 attendees, with many great speakers and programs-a good professional development opportunity; there was also participation from the Catholic School District.

Father Don Stein was in hospital recently, but is doing better now; Father Romano Venturelli is in hospital in a coma-please keep him in your prayers. A parishioner has donated a vigil light stand to OLPH, which will contain battery-operated candles-tea light variety-and will be blessed this weekend. Parishioners will now be able to light candles as prayer offerings.

Archbishop Smith has informed us that our recent practice of having gluten-free hosts during Mass is not acceptable, according to Canon Law; the only valid material for the hosts is wheat flour and water; we found a new host that contains only .01% gluten, and will use that; if any parishioners have a problem with that amount of gluten, they are advised to contact the office. Another potential solution is to have those who are gluten-intolerant receive from the cup only, and the staff has found mustum-a form of grape juice, which can be used as a wine for those who cannot drink from the regular cup for health reasons. We will keep parishioners informed of progress on this issue.

8. Standing Reports:

- a) Liturgy Council: Nil report
- b) Finance/Administration: Ron provided the annual report via E-mail; recommendation made to request finance council to explain some items in the report.

9. Information, Discussion, and Action:

a) Information:

- i. Shrove Tuesday: Good attendance-approximately 130 served; recommend that we start at 5 next year as several people were waiting when service started at 5:30.
- ii. Parish Picnic: Linda, Jason and Barb met today and will provide further updates at our next meeting
- iii. Parish Visioning: Robert provided a document which we are to read and discuss at our next meeting; send any comments to Robert prior to the meeting

b) Discussion/Action:

- i. QuidNovum: Check the website for updates; Linda advised that the Archdiocese recently received an award from Presidium for our Called to Protect Workshops
- ii. Addressing the Congregation: Father Jack is working on this
- iii. Feedback from Parishioners: Finance will be requested to provide more detail on some items in the Annual Report; welcoming Mass and breakfast for newcomers to OLPH will be held on March 19th; website has been revamped, making it easier to access information.
- iv. Parish Potluck Dinners: Good attendance at the February 17th potluck; the next one is on May 19th; PPC members are invited to attend and welcome people; maybe we could organize a potluck dinner in the fall.
- v. Communication: Should we utilize twitter and other forms of communication to connect with parishioners? Decision of last year was to retain the status quo re communication in OLPH.
- vi. ABJ Prayer Bags: Monica advised that she received a request from Tracy Lockhart, chair of the ABJ School Council asking if PPC could support this initiative; decision was to provide prayer cards for the graduates; ceremony will be held at ABJ on May 26th; we are encouraged to attend. Monica will obtain prayer cards for the prayer bags

- vii. New PPC members; Give names of potential candidates to Father Jack; Ron Dick, Barb, Leta and Monica will be leaving PPC this year-will need 4 new members.
- viii. Action Items: #1 and #2-ongoing, #3-Father Jack working on this, #4-completed, #5-Father Jack advised that other parishes are having similar issues as we are-will continue to look for ways to integrate them, #6, #7 and #8-Maureen will check with Raylene to see if those items have been done, #9-completed.

PPC will organize a goal-setting workshop for all ministries for the fall.

10. Parish Formation Activities:

Gift-check recent brochure for updates; more communication coming from the Formed website, K of C dance-good attendance-raised \$15,000, RCIA-ongoing, Ash Wednesday-had 2 Masses at ABJ and 3 at OLPH-all were full, Day of confession-March 8th-busy all day. Recent workshops on confession were also well-attended

11. What are we hearing from parishioners?

- i) Are we having conversations, asking questions, interested?
- ii) Ministry Liaison Reports: Monica advised that she gave thank-you cards to the Young Disciples for their presentation on February 7th; Ron advised that he asked Coby Veeken to be our guest speaker for April.

12. Significant Dates:

- a) Next PPC Executive meeting: Saturday, April 8th at 9AM
- b) **Next PPC meeting: Wednesday, April 19th at 6PM**

13. The closing prayer was led by Jason; meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM

Follow-up Action Items:

1. Contact your Ministry Liaisons re any issues for PPC-all members
2. Give ideas to Maureen re guest speakers-all members
3. Complete Church Etiquette follow-up-Father Jack
4. Organize a TIM Workshop for all ministries for the fall-Maureen
5. Read Our Disposable Culture for Faith Discussion for April meeting-all members
6. Read PPC Visioning Team Report and discuss at April meeting-all members
7. Read brochure on Couples for Christ, and discuss at April meeting-all members
8. Get prayer cards for ABJ Grad prayer bag program-Monica
9. Give names of potential PPC members to Father Jack-all members
10. Advise Betty and/or Pat about PPC discussion on euthanasia-Raylene
11. Give feedback to Raylene on her letter re Catholic education-all members
12. Determine if there is a brochure from EICS that can be put in our lobby-Raylene