**Our Lady of Grace**

**Parish Pastoral Council (“PPC”)**

**Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2021**

**ATTENDEES:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Priests**  | Father Kevin Finnegan  | Father Nathan Hastings |   |   |
| **2022** | Steve Schreiber (Chair) | Art Hays (absent) | Mike DuMond (Join by phone) |  Lucy Winter  |
| **2023** | Angela Ciagne (Vice-Chair) | Ashley Biwan | Ben Ganje |  |
| **2024** | Caron Trierweiler (Secretary) | Bill Egan | Drew Pearson (Join by phone) |   |
| **Trustees**  | Chip Fuhrmann (absent) | Monique Maddox  |   |   |

**Welcome and Minutes Approval**: Father Kevin began the meeting with prayer. The PPC Chair welcomed the members to the meeting.

**Old Business -** None

**New Business**

1. ***Liaison Assignments:*** There are two new PPC roles: (1) New PPC Member Committee and (2) Parish Life Engagement Coordinators.

Bill Egan, Ben Ganje & Ashley Biwan will serve on the New PPC Member committee and will informally start the vetting and recruitment of potential candidates for PPC. They will deliver a recuring update at monthly meetings.

Mike DuMond and Art Hays will serve as Parish Life Engagement Coordinators to help promote our OLG community.

1. ***PPC Role:*** Father Kevin explained the primary role of PPC is discernment.

Caron Trierweiler shared the actionable items from her School Age Faith Formation Liaison report. Staff persons, Sr. Julieta and Stephanie Lloyd, have asked for help from the PPC with recruitment of catechists. They need more Sunday School teachers at 9:30am mass, volunteers to be teachers in grades 1-5 Faith Formation on Wednesday evenings, and more persons to serve as small group discipleship leaders for middle school students in 6th, 7th and 8th grade. Caron offered a proposal that an inspirational testimonial at masses in late August or early September may be an effective recruitment strategy.

1. ***Project Return to Mass, Return to Mission (RTM): Observation & Feedback -*** The Council was asked to prepare thoughts and comments ahead of meeting on the three questions stated below.
* *What has your experience coming back meant to you? Have you received comments from others about what it meant to them and if so, what were they?*
* *Joy of receiving the bread and wine in person*
* Provide an inspirational testimony at 9:30m mass on why I’ve come back to mass
* *Have you noticed Fr. Kevin making an effort to greet parishioners in the pews before mass starts? Could others be involved with this?*
	+ Staff persons participate in greeting parishioners; they may also use this as an opportunity to talk about the ministry they represent
* *How could we make the environment be more welcoming?*
	+ Opportunities for social connections after mass such as donuts and coffee in connection with donations towards a fundraiser
	+ Turn to your right side and your left side and introduce yourself
	+ Music as inspiration and the invitation – blending the sacred with the familiar songs of our childhood to invoke nostalgia
	+ PPC Council introduce themselves to parishioners before and after mass
	+ Recognize anniversaries at end of mass with a special prayer
	+ Testimonials or other enticements to welcome live streaming and Fox 9 viewers back to church

The Council will revisit the topic of RTM and it’s progress at the September meeting.

1. ***Parish Life Calendar:*** Mike Dumond, will be sending out the calendar by email soon. Council members are to take an active role in attending parish life events and actively inviting the community to attend.
2. ***75th Anniversary Celebration:*** Jon Cassidy and Melissa Miller are planning an event for September 18th and 19th. More events may be planned throughout the year.
3. ***Synod Small Group:*** Groups will meet weekly for 6 sessions from September 19 – November 14. OLG can jumpstart the process of group formation by using existing small groups. The three focus areas for discussion, prayer, and feedback will be the service of evangelization, forming missionary disciples, and engaging youth and young adults. More information can be found at: <https://www.archspm.org/synod/>.
4. ***Liaison Report, OLG School Update:*** Drew Pearson provided an update on school enrollment, new curriculum in religion, science, & math, and the move to a new tuition system (TADS).

**Closing comments:** Ashley Biwan invited Council members to attend upcoming events in August for new parishioners including the monthly Welcome event and Summer Social.

**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/>.