

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Pastoral Council Minutes

October 13, 2016

Opening Prayer: Homer Ferree

Before the Council Meeting began, a group picture was taken for the Parish newsletter.

Roll Call: Father Eric Johnson, Father Adam Ahern, Deacon Jeff Powell, Mary Ann Bennett, Bob Kleehamer, Homer Ferree, Luke Fitzgerald, Kay Grube, Steve Lawrence, Charla Perez, Lezlie Barth, and Wendy Kaiser

Absent/Excused: Barbara Sanders & Mark Seabrook

Old Business: None

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Bob Luke Fitzgerald to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2016 Pastoral Council meeting. This was seconded by Wendy Kaiser and approved by all.

Finance Report: Bob Kleehamer gave an abbreviated financial report because of many OLPH parish members being on Fall Break. He estimated that we are currently \$20-25,000 dollars below budget. The Annual Report is in process of being printed – should be ready early next week.

Education Report: Mary Ann Bennett presented the School Report. This too was “abbreviated” because of the 2-week fall break. She did summarize recent-happenings:

- Enrollment holds steady at 362 students
- Grandparents Day was celebrated with Mass, bingo and breakfast
- The Family Fun Fest was a huge success, and she wanted to thank all who participated in the dunk booth
- Middle School students have been involved in various service projects
- There has been a successful Student Council Fundraiser.
- Seventh graders have been selling mums to help finance their 8th grade trip
- A Parent-Teach Conference was held before fall break; report cards will be issued when students return
- PTO sponsored a recent book fair
- PTO is getting ready for the annual Trunk or Treat Halloween festivities in the school

parking lot after mass on Oct. 29th

Pastor's Report: Father Eric began by congratulating Bishop Etienne on his newly appointed position as Archbishop of Anchorage, Alaska. His installation will be November 9; Father Eric will attend the ceremony and will consequently be absent from our next parish council meeting on November 10.

He also congratulated Archbishop Tobin for being appointed a Cardinal. He went on to say that this is a very unique situation for the Indianapolis diocese – a first actually, whereas we now have a Cardinal/Bishop leading our community. His installation will be November 19. Cardinal/Bishop Tobin will remain in Indianapolis.

A new Rite of Marriage has been issued. There is a slight change in translation, but no radical change.

Deacon Jeff Powell received the Koetter Construction bid last Friday for reconfiguring the front steps/entry to church. It was a much higher estimate than anticipated. Deacon Jeff will follow up in an attempt to get an itemized cost accounting to see if there is any flexibility in the bid.

A successful OLPH Staff Camping Trip took place at Turkey Run State Park recently, enjoyed by all.

Father Eric recently attended a "Pastors Toolbox" conference at The Archabbey of St. Meinrad's, where twelve internationally-known speakers presented. He considered it a very positive experience.

Father Eric loosely discussed his intent in the next few months to explore a Strategic Long Term Plan for our parish. It will begin with the Council looking at the data collected from our recent parish survey. This will inform next steps for the project. More to come on this as Father refines his vision.

Father asked that the December Parish Council Meeting date be changed from December 8th to December 6th because of the 8th being a holy day of obligation.

New business: None

If anyone has an agenda item, please let Homer know 2 weeks prior to our next meeting.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Thursday, November 10.

Charla Perez moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Luke Fitzgerald and approved by all.

Closing Prayer: Luke Fitzgerald

Respectfully submitted on behalf of vacationing Secretary, Barbara Sanders, by Kay Grube.