

Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2014

Present: Fr. Scott Euvrard, Leo Bernotas, Miguel Villaneuva, Mike Iwanowicz, Fabiola Aguilera, Carol Roberto, Kate Mason. Mike Jaillet, Kerry Payson, John Glancy, Susan Osberg, and Jeff Bloechl.

1. Recent meeting of representatives at parish collaborative

John Clancy reported continued progress in preparations for implementation of the collaborative with Blessed Sacrament and St. Mary's. There has been discussion of offering tours of each parish and/or posting links to a webcam tour of each parish, to help people in each parish become familiar with the buildings of other parishes in their collaborative. A joint PPC retreat is planned for June, with a Doodle poll already out to all members. Fr. Chip was at the most recent meeting of the collaborative committee. He discussed the possibility of changes in our Mass schedules, but seems to have in mind only minor changes and in any case will discuss ideas with the PPC before making any. Fr. Chip has already been in contact with Frs. Clooney and Spicer about their continued presence at OLOS. He confirmed that, in keeping with canon law, he will retain distinct parish finance committees, but will move to form a single PPC for the entire collaborative. He does not yet know the names of his associate pastors for the collaborative. The next meeting is schedule for April 7, at St. Mary's.

2. 2014 Parish Assembly

Jackie Baldino reported a very successful parish assembly, and evaluations by participants confirm this impression. An estimated 300 people were in attendance on Saturday, and 150-200 on Sunday. The fact that this year's theme was so popular suggests a wish / need for more programming of service projects. The move to Sharon Middle School was helpful, as that space accommodates large numbers well.

3. Continued efforts to improve sense of community in parish

In follow-up to a discussion of this topic a year ago, Miguel Villanueva asked for further reflection. It was suggested that the "home parties" have served to tighten some

communal bonds, and that other steps might include organizing “Beer and Bible” meetings, and renewal of the adult education program between Masses that was successful some years ago. We might also spend some time identifying a specific charism and/or set of goals around which we might come together more often and more actively.

4. 2014 Lenten Mission

The Lenten Mission program is set for March 17 and 18, with Rory Cooney invited to lead us. A complete schedule of events at OLOS (3/17) and Blessed Sacrament (3/18) has been posted online and advertised at all recent Masses.

5. 2014 Fr. Bullock Memorial Lecture

This year’s Bullock Lecture will take place on April 24. Richard Gaillardetz of Boston College will lecture on the role of the laity according to the Vatican II documents.

6. Other business

The new parish hymnals are paid for, labeled, and ready for use. The town of Sharon is organizing a 4th of July carnival and would like OLOS to participate by putting up a booth / putting on a game. On April 20, there will be a “Hunger Banquet” between the 9.00 and 11.30 Masses, in O’Connell Hall. This has been organized in discussion with Oxfam, and concentrates on educating participants on how most of the world eats. The parish youth have scheduled two events to raise money for this summer’s service trips. The middle schoolers are concentrating on works of mercy, with small groups each developing projects focused on one of them .

-Submitted by Jeff Bloechl