

Our Lady of Sorrows – PPC Minutes

September 3, 2014

Present: Fr. Chip Hines, Ann Marie Rosa, Deacon Mike, Leo Bernotas, Claire Ramsbottom, Marty Murphy, Jackie Baldino, Kate Mason, Mary Herx-Morrill, Fabiola Aguilera, Mike Jaillet, Kerry Payson, Jim Hanlon, John Glancy

Mass at the Lake

Scheduled for September 14 at 10:45 a.m. Fabiola updated the group on the schedule for the day: Mass, followed by a picnic, and tribute to Susanne Osberg in light of her retirement from OLOS. Help is needed with parking, and baked goods and water would be useful.

Update on Staff Changes and Replacements

Music:

In consideration of Susanne's unfortunate retirement, a search for a new Music Director is underway and a Committee has been formed to vet the candidates. Ads have been placed, resumes received, and auditions to be held. Process seems to be moving along well.

Religious Education:

Fr. announced the departure on September 21 of Jackie Baldino as Director of Faith Formation for both OLOS and Blessed Sacrament parishes after three years. She will be greatly missed. A replacement will be sought, but open question if the person will be hired for all three parishes within the Collaborative. Will take the opportunity to reassess role and experiment with the model. Fr. noted he wants people involved in a search /faith formation committee. Uncertainly when the replacement could be in place, but in the interim Mary Herx-Morrill (Coordinator of Faith Formation) has graciously offered to cover as needed.

Jim Spoto resigned from the PFC Board. We are grateful for all his time, dedication, and analysis over the past years. Dom Bettinelli, Director of Communications, is now on board and will be assisting with email, phones, websites, etc.

Finance Update

FY14: Jim Hanlon noted that Fiscal Year '14 is on budget, and has a favorable variance of \$ 5k. Offertory is up, but Annual Collection is down. Discussion on how to better promote ParishPay or electronic banking monthly contributions as this gives a more consistent income stream (currently represent 35% of monthly giving). Some parishioners reluctant to use this, but offertory cards are available and being used. Religious Ed income down due to decreased enrollment. Council discussed the perceived high cost of OLOS's religious ed program (\$235) versus Blessed Sacrament's (\$110). Allowances and rebates are offered for multi-children families and the amount given annually to offertory, but PFC offered to examine what drove the cost for OLOS (rental of space for program is one factor).

FY15: Numbers are still being assessed. It was noted that PFC would have a better feel for the budget in a month's time. Collaborative expenses would be shared. Cornerstone Fundraising has been hired to manage the Grand Annual collection for all three parishes.

Collaborative Developments

The Council discussed the reactions to the new Mass schedule. Many will miss the "quiet" 7:30 a.m. Mass at OLOS but it was felt over time people will adjust to the new schedules across the parishes. It was agreed that a postcard from OLOS with the new Mass times and to promote the Mass at the Lake will be prepared and mailed.

Marty updated the group that the color coded offertory envelopes for each parish (blue for OLOS, green for St Mary, and maroon for BSC) are in the works which will allow parishioners to use their parish envelopes when visiting another Matthew 13 collaborative parish. It was also noted that OLOS would now be honoring the second collection envelopes as required by the Archdiocese.

There is awareness of the interest in having more priests on campus at OLOS to foster communication and engagement. The Matthew 13 collaborative priests have been staying between the two Sunday Masses if they are celebrating both Masses. Fr. Chip is considering standing office hours at OLOS as well.

Coffee Hour and Communications

Fabiola updated the group on the roll out of a coffee hour that will be held in O'Connell Hall in between the 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. Masses on Sunday. Each week will be hosted by a different parish group or council. Aim is to start the Sunday of September 21. The coffee hour will also feature a service table to give people an opportunity to purchase Mass cards, request sacramental records, register in the parish, obtain information about the rental of O'Connell Hall and the Bullock Center, and get answers to questions they may have about the parish.

Lenten Mission

Looking at the third week of March for the Mission in which all three parishes will participate. Have narrowed the search from ten speakers to two. Mary Alice Dowdell will be the chairperson again.

10th Anniversary Bullock Lecture

There is a need for a new chair. This is typically held the third week of April.

Any Other Business

Joan Spano and Mary Alice Dowdell are supporting reach out to homebound parishioners. They are sending cards and mini care packages, visiting, bringing communion, and organizing rides to church. Any help would be appreciated.

Ann Marie asked that PPC members please remember to sign up for Disciples in Mission training.