

Mother of Perpetual Help Parish

Minutes of Joint Meeting Pastoral Council and Finance Council Monday, April 12, 2021

A joint meeting of the Mother of Perpetual Help Pastoral and Finance Councils was held in the Gym at the Parish Center on 106th Street on Monday, April 12, 2021, commencing at 6:31 PM.

1. Meeting opened by reading a Prayer for Unity followed by an Our Father

Attendees as follows:

Pastoral Council: Fr. Alan Jurkus, Temporary Administrator, Mary Maberry, Chairperson, Gary Jensen, Gil Van Blaricom, John Czepulis, John Gomez, Jon Leonardelli, Julie Barkow-Peck, Mary Lou Hopkins, and Susan Scharmach, Recording Secretary

Finance Council: Bernie Hintzke, Chairperson, Doug Barnes, Trustee, Darryl Draeger, Grace Elliott, Trustee, Jack Schickert, Terri Weber, and Mary Wenger, Business Manager

Excused from the meeting were Dan LaFond, Keith Marx, and Sue Harrits

2. Meeting began with introductions by all attendees, and Fr. Alan providing background information on his pastoral career

Mary read the "thank you" from Fr. Jeff's family acknowledging the joint gifts from both Councils

Fr. Alan addressed the Parish merger, our priority to complete the process, and emphasized it is "Who we are" NOT "Where we are" which makes a congregation

Mary provided a communication letter from Fr. Alan, Pastoral and Finance Councils which reiterates the Archbishop's approval of the merger, moving to one worship site and continuing with the vision of Fr. Jeff. As a result of the passing of Fr. Jeff, the Archdiocese has requested the effective date of the move to one worship site be changed from July to September. This communication will be printed in the Bulletin, made available to all Parishioners on the website and on Flocknote, as well as a reminder by the celebrants at this weekend's Masses to read the Bulletin

There is a real need to expand communication to Parishioners

Time to begin discussion for unification of Ministries starting with the Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Ushers from all three sites

Next, Mary asked Council to openly and without criticism share what they are hearing with regard to one worship site from Parish members:

- Continued desire to keep 4:00 PM and 9:30 AM Masses at 116th Street
- Lack of padded seating
- Lack of handicap parking at 106th Street – discussion on adding handicap parking (will check with City)
- Feeling unwelcome
 - Council will lead on improving this feeling by example – being positive and helpful (wearing of name tags will help with Council visibility)
 - All ushers continue to receive compliments for exhibiting a most welcoming invitation
 - Addition of greeters
 - Explore possibility of an open house at the Worship site
 - Ask Parish members for their suggestions

Doug gave an update on the progress of St. Al's sale

- Real estate closing to be held at the end of May

- A committee will begin working on the closing celebration for St. Al's within the next week
- Collecting of artifacts to be used at the MPH Worship site is ongoing

Both Fr. Alan and Doug addressed unification of all Council members. At this time Mary reiterated there was hesitation to move to one Worship site because handicap parking is a problem, the need for padded seats and an unwelcome feeling, and asked if there was anything additional

Hearing no further comments or disagreement, Mary requested Council members to reaffirm their agreement with and commitment to the Parish merger and to one Worship site

Gary suggested that we provide the incoming Pastor/Administrator with an Action Plan as well as documentation from the merger process

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM with the Mother of Perpetual Help Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Scharmach

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Pastoral Council Secretary