

Mother of Perpetual Help Parish

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – Monday, March 4, 2024

A meeting of the Mother of Perpetual Help Pastoral Council was held in the Notre Dame Room of the Parish Center on 106th Street on Monday, March 4, 2024.

Council members in attendance were: Fr. Matthew Perumpil, Pastor, Gary Jensen, Council Chairperson, Sharon Anderer, Karen Brah, Devan Gracyalny, Deb Morgan, Don Pederson, Dave Shook, John Weber, and Susan Scharmach, Secretary. Also in attendance were John Gomez and Debbie Peterson, Trustees.

1. The meeting was called to order by Gary Jensen at 6:29 PM
2. The meeting opened with the following prayer provided by Karen Brah and read by all:

It helps now and then, to step back and take a long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the Church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about. We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities. We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the Master Builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.

3. Communication/Social Media Updates – Gary Jensen
 - Attending Archdiocese Communication Team meetings via Zoom which provides bulletin and social media support
 - Social Media – Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Flocknote
 - Platform for Instagram has been added
 - Facebook has received a facelift with professional imagery and now lists liturgical happenings
 - If visiting either Facebook or Instagram be sure and “like”
 - Exploring multitude of possibilities available on Flocknote
 - Fish Fries have been added to the Archdiocese site
 - Communication of updates will be made to Parishioners after Easter
 - Master Calendar has been created along with a form to be completed for all meetings and events

4. Pastoral Plan: Engagement Committee – Don Pederson
 - First event of Pickleball was held on Saturday, February 10th, from 12:00-3:00 PM; it was well received
 - Approximately 40 participants
 - Request form for suggestions of future events provided numerous possibilities
 - Plan to hold two events per month with one in March due to Easter
 - Next Meeting Thursday, March 7th
5. Liaison Reports/Updates
 - Buildings & Grounds – John Gomez
 - We have hired a grant writer to assist in seeking a grant of \$450,000 which would allow MPH to add security to doors and windows, i.e., FOBs, in addition to new air conditioning for office and church space at 116th Street
 - Finance – Don Pederson
 - Two new members have filled the vacancies
 - There are endowment proceeds from MQH
 - Planning for the Budget, which is due the end of June, to start in March
 - Liturgy – Karen Brah
 - Meeting held on February 7th at which our newly arrived Sisters were introduced
 - Recruiting volunteers for Holy Thursday foot washing
 - Next meeting April 10th
 - Human Concerns – Dave Shook
 - Meijers Simply Gift Program member contribution date is weekend of March 10th
 - Lenten Project will again be for Congo Helping Hands
 - Social Committee – Sharon Anderer
 - Trivia Night held February 24th was successful, and the 50/50 Raffle winners donated their cash prizes back to the Parish
 - Next event TBD
 - Faith Formation – Devan Gracyalny
 - Nearing end of youth ministry
 - Students will be assisting with Stations during Lent
 - First Communion will be on May 4th at the 4:00 PM Mass
 - Confirmation for the West Allis Parishes will be held on May 29th at St. John the Evangelist
 - Deanery Report – Gary Jensen
 - No update
 - School – Gary Jensen
 - Sip 'n Support fundraiser event to be held on March 9th
 - Parent meeting held re tuition increase
 - Currently enrollment is at 156 with goal to increase to 200 students for 2024-25 year
6. Pastor's Update – Fr. Matthew
 - Evening Prayer and Rosary has been added for more community prayer
 - Parish Mission will be held March 18-20 and will be led by Dr. Dan Scholz
 - Chili dump will be held before Lenten Mission on Monday March 18th
 - Eucharistic Miracles of Carlo Acutis will be on display March 19-21st
 - Divine Mercy Sunday will be held on April 7th
 - Faith Formation will have a Family Celebration which will be held on April 28th, the week following session end
 - Sister Lincy and Sister Vita have started assisting with the pastoral and faith formation ministries
 - MQH Endowment transfer of proceeds to MPH has been a difficult process
 - Seton Lease is up for renewal

7. Council is encouraged to attend the various Lenten events

Meeting closed with a Hail Mary and Glory Be led by Fr. Matthew

Thereafter the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Next Meeting: Monday, May 6, 2024 at 6:30 PM
Notre Dame Room – Parish Center

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Scharmach

Susan M. Scharmach, Secretary