

**Mother of Perptual Help Parish  
Pastoral Council  
Meeting Minutes – Monday, August 5, 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, August 5, 2024.

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

Excused was Sharon Anderer.

1. The meeting was called to order by Gary Jensen at 5:58 PM
2. The meeting opened with a prayer provided by Susan Scharmach which was read by all.

*Heavenly Father, we come to you today asking for your guidance, wisdom, and support as we begin this meeting. Help us to engage in meaningful discussion; allow us to grow closer as a group and nurture the bonds of community. Fill us with your grace, Lord God, as we make any decisions. Continue to remind us that all that we do here today, all that we accomplish, is for the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of You, and for the service of humanity. We ask these things in your name. Amen. [Ignatian prayer]*

3. Pastor's Report – Fr. Matthew
  - Fr. Matthew provided Council with the Parish Budget for July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025; the Budget will be provided to Members with their September newsletter
  - MPH Mission – To be a dynamic faith community, truthful to Catholic teaching, spiritually nourishing, united in the Eucharist, reaching out and accompanying one another through engaging ministries, witnessing the gospel through the example of our lives
  - Parish Statistics
    - Families with Children – 130
    - Family Units under Age Group 75 – 537
    - New Family Units Registered 2024 – 46
    - Total Registered Active Family Units – 874
    - Family Units with Email – 596
    - Deaths – 35
    - 29 Baptisms this year (69 from June 2021 to June 2024)
  - MPH Highlights
    - Eucharistic Revival
    - Return of the Parish Festival
    - State Grant to reduce isolation and loneliness among seniors through a parish network and the ministry to the homebound
    - Creation of an Inspiration Team to revamp the Stewardship efforts of the Parish
    - Financial Stability
    - Diversity of our Parish
    - Catholic School
    - Korean Community Proposal – MPH will host to provide worship space
    - Ministry and presence of the Religious Sisters
  - Pastor's Role as a Shepherd to MPH (John 10:11-16)
    - To guide to pasture
    - To protect from danger
    - To give hope

- To know his sheep
  - To assist searching for the lost
  - To carry the weak
  - To care for the wounded
  - To unite into one flock
4. Staff Guest, Nicole Hirthe, Director of Finance & HR, rescheduled to September meeting.
  5. Recap of 2023-24 Council Accomplishments – Gary Jensen
    - Formed the Parishioner Engagement Committee, also known as PEC
    - Development of Parish Communications Committee, upgrading Email and Facebook visibility in addition to creating presence on Instagram and ultimately hiring Rita Baumann as the Communications Coordinator
    - Increased Pastoral Council involvement and visibility within the Parish
  6. Keeping the Momentum: Goals for 2024-25 – Gary Jensen
    - Moving from Maintenance to Mission
      - Need to define our next steps in our Mission of a Dynamic MPH
    - How can Council help facilitate creating a “Culture of Invitation”?
    - Mission of Service
      - What can we do to become a more active community?
    - Improve Council Visibility
      - Creation of Council’s Corner in the Bulletin
      - Explore thought of t-shirts
    - Implement Parish Re-registration Month – October
      - Online registration
      - Use as a tool to define member Time, Talent and Treasure
  7. Liaison Reports/Updates
    - Finance – Gary Jensen
      - New Finance Chair, Corrine Tobin
    - Deanery – Gary Jensen
      - No update
    - School – Gary Jensen
      - No update
    - Buildings & Grounds – John Gomez
      - Provided architectural drawing of proposed new driveway to be located south of East site; will utilize funds from LOA campaign distribution
      - Cushions to be installed on pew seats at East site
    - Faith Formation – Devan Gracyalny
      - Sr. Vita is reviewing all of the items in storage
      - Men’s Group, along with the Parish, will be contributing support and prayers to a new seminarian from Nigeria
    - Liturgy – Karen Brah
      - No meeting until October
    - Human Concerns – Dave Shook
      - No July meeting
    - Social Committee – Don Pederson
      - Now combined with PEC (Parish Engagement Committee); Chairperson, Don Pederson and Co-Chairperson, Rick Day

- Upcoming Events
  - Pickleball – Saturday, August 10th, 10:00 AM to Noon
  - Outdoor Movie Night, Friday, August 23rd, 8:00 PM to 10:30 PM
  - Family Fun Fest, Saturday, September 7th, Noon to 6:00 PM
- 8. Committee Liaison Assignments – 2024-25 Session
  - Buildings & Grounds – John Gomez
  - Finance – Gary Jensen
  - Faith Formation – Devan Gracyalny
  - Liturgy – Karen Brah
  - Human Concerns – Dave Shook
  - PEC – Don Pederson
  - School – Gary Jensen
  - Communications – Susan Scharmach
  - Council Corner – Susan Scharmach
  - Festival – Sharon Anderer
  - Inspiration Team – Deb Morgan
- 9. Open Discussion
  - Fr. Matthew
    - Planning Leadership Retreat for Finance and Pastoral Councils, Saturday, September 21st, starting at 8:00 AM, ending with Lunch; venue TBD
    - Proposed Thanksgiving Lunch/Dinner in October to show appreciation to outside service providers, including police, firefighters, etc.

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

Thereafter the meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM

Next Meeting: Monday, September 9, 2024 at 6:00 PM  
Notre Dame Room – Parish Center

Respectfully submitted,

*Susan M. Scharmach*

Susan M. Scharmach, Secretary