



OUR LADY OF POMPEII
VIA FIDEI MINISTRY
Parish Update

Issue #4

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Pastoral Advisory Board (PAB)

Back during the Parish Sabbatical of 2011, a concept was developed to establish a team of people as special advisors to the pastor. The idea laid dormant for nine years, but was resurrected as part of the Via Fidei initiative. After consultation with Father, Betsy and the Parish Council, a proposal was drafted outlining the role and structure of the PAB.

On Sunday, October 18th, the PAB members met for the first time to delve into how the PAB would support Father in the administration of the parish. The members were introduced to the responsibilities and the importance of the PAB in light of current chaos in the diocese and the Church. Specifically, the group discussed the four key elements of the PAB's mission:

- Provide the pastor with objective, honest and direct feedback relative to all aspects of running the parish
- Represent the voice of the parish to the pastor
- Hold the pastor accountable
- Support and safeguard the pastor

There are five members of the PAB. The two trustees, along with three other members. In addition, the PAB has a facilitator, responsible for keeping meetings on track and recording the meeting discussions, decisions and action commitments.

Each member met a rigorous set of criteria including:

- Faith-filled
- Trusted by the pastor
- Insightful, intelligent
- Honest, open, respectful
- Personal strength of Character; not intimidated by the 'roman collar'
- Integrity: able to live within the commitment of collegiality, collaboration, confidentiality
- Connected and aware of the current and evolving needs of the parish
- Able to work well with the pastor, understand the larger objectives and be committed to Christ, His Church and this parish

The next few issues of the Via Fidei Ministry Update will provide more information about the nature and work of the PAB.

Announcing the Pastoral Advisory Board members

Ricky Blair
Trish Casillo (Facilitator)
Annie Kromer
Bill Maher (Trustee)
Annette Wargo
Christine Wittmeyer

Parish Council

In September, the Parish Council was presented with a proposal to transition from the current format in support of the Pastoral Advisory Board and the Via Fidei Parish Ministry. The new design is very consistent with the 2019 diocesan guidelines outlining updated norms for Parish Pastoral Councils. The following chart summarizes the direction of the document:

FROM	To
coordinating activities	articulating vision
voting on issues	building consensus
committee reports	planning and goal setting
elected by popularity	selected by competence
parliamentary procedure and by-laws	prayerful consideration

In October, the Parish Council vetted the proposal and approved it. Parish Council president Keith Kuberski summarized the decision this way: "The Parish Council's original mission has been completed. We will now convert into the Via Fidei Ministry initiative under Deacon John's direction, starting with this upcoming meeting on Nov 9th."

We are grateful to all those who served on the Council for so many years. The Council has been instrumental in guiding the parish in countless ways. As we begin our journey to the future, things inevitably change. We honor the past, even as we look forward to new ways of being Church at OLP.

Via Fidei Parish Ministry: Overview Meeting (scheduled for Monday, November 9, 2020 at 7:00PM)

In order for us to make this process our own, the next major activity is for OLP to establish its own Via Fidei ministry. The members of this ministry will work with Father and Betsy to take the lead in determining the focus of this effort for the parish as we work recreate what we mean by 'Church' here at OLP.

It's an exciting time for the parish, and a really important one. Probably not since the founding of the parish, over 100 years ago, have we been in the position to realign our direction and efforts, recommitting to the mission Christ gave us so long ago.

As you know, a good amount of work has been done to set the foundation, but now we need people 'gifted and called' to take us into the future. The Via Fidei Parish Ministry will take the lead in assessing the issues, determining priorities, establishing working teams and guiding the work effort.

PLEASE PLAN ON JOINING US ON NOVEMBER 9TH (7:00) TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN BE PART OF THIS IMPORTANT INITIATIVE.
