

Kaukauna Catholic Parishes Joint Parish Council

May 16, 2026 9:00

Joint Parish Center

Vision: Discover, Live and Share Jesus

Attendees:

☒ Father Luke	☒ Steve Meehl	☒ Eric Miller
☒ Tom VanHeuklon	☒ Anne Hameister	☒ Kaitlyn Hill
☒ Rick Vanderloop	☒ Diane Baumgart	☒ Jason Beilfuss
☒ Tony Bivona	☒ Jessica Poch	

Notes

1. Opened with prayer.
2. Check in: What are you looking forward to this summer?
3. Agenda: no additions.
4. Review of May Minutes:
 - a. 4.a.10: Barcode should be QR code.
 - b. 12 parking spots lost at St. Francis due to construction CE might be temporary (during construction)
 - c. 4.14. (Latin 101) Tony is interested.
5. Bishops's Reclaiming Sunday questions:¹
 - a. Need to start small, to let people know how important Sunday is. Example: not spending money on Sunday.
 - b. Catechism
 - c. Education is important. Sunday obligation. Start small, increasing challenges. Our Father one week and add another the next. Some sort of reward for kids to get to mass. Child incentive.
 - d. FAQ. Maybe a QR code.
 - e. Volunteer recognition.
 - f. Hospitality at Holy Cross. Greetings and hand shakes. Lively discussions in Narthex before mass.
 - g. Consider having a "reclaim sunday" board. Ask people to share.
 - h. Think also about singles and empty nesters? St. Paul's home.
 - i. Maybe PPE or Bingo at St. Pauls.
 - j. Kaitlyn has a long list of ideas that she will type up and share.
 - k. Need to educate on the how and why.
 - l. We need to witness the small ways that we keep Sundays holy.
 - m. Consider surveying the parishioners, possibly anonymous, What could we do to help you get to mass? A survey could help parishioners feel heard.
 - n. Getting kids involved in mass will bring parents.
 - o. We do a good job getting St. Ignatius kids involved in mass, reading, choir, etc., but we could do the same for Discipleship kids.
 - p. Could we do a special mass at a baseball park?
 - q. Could we put a mass times schedule near ball park concessions?
6. School update:
 - a. Jessica will be concluding her second 3 year term on JPC.

¹ NOTE: This is not a full transcription of the entire conversation, but rather, a best attempt to capture as much as possible of a fast moving discussion.

- b. Funeral for Kyle Asheauer. Brother of a 2nd grade teacher. Dad on the athletic board. Impromptu half day of school to allow staff to attend the funeral.
 - c. Homeschooling group comes on Fridays. Mass, gym library. Quite a few new enrollments from homeschooling group.
 - d. Teachers choose St. Ignatius, not because they make a lot of money, but because they are attracted to the environment, and the culture.
 - e. 3 weeks of summer school.
 - f. Camp Tek. day.
 - g. Losing 2 staff to become nuns. A few others are moving on for family reasons. All but 2 vacated spots are already filled. We still need Music and Special Education teachers.
 - h. Suggestion: consider having high school specific goals.
7. Finances
- a. Budget surpluses of \$70-80k.
 - b. HC will need to raise ~\$1.2M for tuck pointing.
 - c. Sound system at St. Marys could use improvement
 - d. Need to be clear that we have a surplus to the budget, but still have significant expenses ahead that are not yet funded.
8. Staffing update.
- a. April Jare will be filling the DRE (Director of Religious Education) Role.
 - b. Verbal commitment from Amy Mott for the new parishioner coordinator position. Starting September 1.
 - c. 2 candidates for Discipleship middle school position.
9. Facilities
- a. Used some one by one money for a new glass doorway (at St. Mary site near offices)
10. Upcoming
- a. Fr. Sudah returning 6/1.
 - b. Question for follow-up: Is mass attendance higher on PPE Sundays?
11. Closed with prayer.

Copies of minutes are available by request at the Parish Office.

Or view minutes online at: <https://www.kaukaunacatholicparishes.org/joint-parish-council-minutes>

Or scan below:

