



# **Sacred Heart Catholic Church Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Monday, June 23, 2025

**Location:** Social Hall Room 102

**Time:** 6 pm

**Facilitators:** Father Stephen Pontzer and Thomas Rodriguez, PC President

## **I. Call to Order & Opening Business**

- **Opening Prayer**
  - Ben Hubbard
- **Reflection**
  - Father Stephen
- **Review of Previous Meeting Minutes**
  - Minutes were sent via email to all members for review
  - Motion to approve minutes was made by Ben Hubbard and seconded by Xavier Peries
  - Minutes were unanimously approved

## **II. Father Stephen Pontzer's Ordination Anniversary**

- **Anniversary Recognition**
  - Happy Anniversary and Congratulations to Father Stephen celebrating 18 years as an ordained priest and 25 years since his discernment to become a priest
  - We are grateful for all he does for all of us and our community

## **III. Welcome New Members**

- **Welcome and Thank You**

We appreciate each of you volunteering to be a part of our amazing pastoral council. Looking forward to serving our parish and our community together

  - Suzy Aler, Seymour Castro, Lucky Morales, Scott Ostrow, Sachie Thorne

## **IV. Acknowledgment of Current Members**

- **Current Members**
  - Present/ongoing members that are present this evening, thank you to each of you for always rising to the occasion for our parish and community
  - Gratitude to Departing Members
    - Michael Bugay, Mack Nelson, Jr., Xavier Peries, Michael Pinto, Hope Sirman
  - Each of you is greatly appreciated and are honored for your time served

## **V. Elections**

- **Officer Elections for 2025-2026 Term**
  - Officer elections were held for the positions of President, Vice President, and Secretary
  - Only members with at least one year of service were eligible
  - Ballots were distributed and collected during the meeting, Father Stephen tallied the votes
    - **President Thomas Rodriguez, Vice President Ben Hubbard**
    - **Secretary Barbara Rodriguez**

## **VI. Diocesan Jubilee & Harvest of Hope Campaign**

- Parish has exceeded the ACA goal; all additional donations will result in a 50% return
- Gratitude was expressed to all PC volunteers and participants
- Diocese-wide Jubilee Year Celebration to take place on **October 11th**
  - Members are encouraged to register online
  - The council may serve in an advisory role; final volunteer needs to be confirmed

## **VII. Ministry Fair**

- Scheduled for **August 23–24 (now September 13-14)**, before and after each Mass



## Sacred Heart Catholic Church Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

- No council meeting in July; all communication concerning the ministry fair will be via email
- Please check your email to sign up for the Mass times you will be available to be at the Kiosk to greet and answer questions
- Location: In the Narthex
- Ministry leaders will be contacted via email

### VIII. Council Objectives & Future Planning

- Reviewed purpose and objectives of the Pastoral Council (found in council binders)
  - These objectives are listed in all agendas as well
- Emphasized role as a council member in supporting the priest, parish, and broader community

### IX. Parishioner Comment/Suggestion Discussion

- Two similar suggestions received regarding the **Mass Second Collection Process**:
  - Concerns about the timing of the second collection (especially during Communion)
  - The Council is aware that the second collection timing is different at all Masses
  - Discussion on whether to standardize collection practices across all Masses or adapt per Mass dynamics
  - Proposed alternative: conduct second collection after Mass at the doors
    - Historically all Mass collections with a basket collection while seated, yield higher percentage of tithes
- Identified challenges:
  - Inconsistent volunteer coverage
  - High reliance on few members serving multiple roles
- Proposed Solutions:
  - Recruit more ushers and possibly revive/formalize a **Hospitality Ministry**
  - Involve youth and teen ministries, for all Masses
  - Consider Knights of Columbus for collection coordination
  - Utilize rotating ministry-based volunteers for collection duties

### X. Around The Room

- Tom stated we should encourage the submission of written suggestions via Suggestion Box for follow-up
  - As PC members we have people coming to us and suggesting we mention their suggestion to the council. Please ask them to write it down and submit it to the pastoral council on paper at the kiosk or by email. This way we can give them feedback
- Seymour notified the council there is a high fee when using a credit card for the Harvest of Hope campaign
  - Father Stephen is aware
- Sachie reiterated the collection process during Mass as discussed previously
- Lucky inquired if the Hispanic ministry would be able to meet the priest that is replacing Fr. Carlos?
  - Father Stephen stated that there will be a meeting with the new priest for the Hispanic community. As well as other ministries and the pastoral council
- Mike Bugay offered to help the council out in the future if there is a need
- Father Stephen thanked everyone for their willingness to serve on the PC. And stated that it is going to be a great 3 years and he is looking forward to seeing new ideas and some fresh perspectives merged with the established ideas

### XI. On The Horizon

- Ministry Fair in August



## Sacred Heart Catholic Church Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

### **XII. Closing of Meeting**

- **Closing Prayer:** Tom Rodriguez
- **Next Meeting:** Monday, August 25, 2025, at 6pm in the Social Hall room 102
- **Meeting Adjourned:** Tom Rodriguez

### **XIII. Attendance**

Father Stephen Pontzer

Suzi Aler

Seymour Castro

Ben Hubbard

Scott Ostrow

Barbara Quinn-Rodriguez

Thomas Rodriguez

Mike Bugay

Deborah Freeman

Lucky Morales

Xavier Peries

Jose Romero

Victor Talamantes

Sachie Thorne