St. Mark Catholic Church

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – September 2026

Date: Monday, September 28, 2026

Location: St. Mark Catholic Church, Kerin Center, 2nd floor

Meeting Called to Order: 7:01 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 7:53 PM

Next Meeting: 7 pm, Monday, October 26, 2026

SECTION 1 - OPENING PRAYER

The meeting opened with prayer. Intentions were offered for the repose of the soul of **Tony Camparano**, a longtime 11:00 AM parishioner who passed away suddenly earlier that morning. Additional intentions were offered for all those held in the hearts of council members. Father John led the prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide the council's deliberations and strengthen the parish community.

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SECTION 2 - ROLL CALL

Members Present / Absent

A quorum was established.

	Name	Status
1	John Ferrannini	Chairman - Present
2	Tricia Sisson	Vice Chair - Absent (Excused)
3	Jairo Cadena, Jr.	Secretary - Present
4	Devon Atkins	Absent (Excused)
5	Chad Wilson	Absent (Excused)
6	Kelly Fernandez	Absent (Excused)
7	Mike Garcia	Present
8	Chris Bixler	Present
9	Rob Cannon	Absent
10	Nadia Rahaim	Present
11	Mary Jane Zimmerman	Present
12	Angelo Sedacca	Present
13	David Thomson	Present
14	Tiffany Duda	Present
15	Andrew Jackson	Present
16	Scott Bruno	Parish Operations – Present
17	Father John Putnam	Pastor – Present
18	Father Kevin Martinez	PV – Present
19	Father Chris Angermeyer	PV – Present

Note: Father Martinze & Angermeyer to now attend meetings as per Bishop Martin.

SECTION 3 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the **August 2026 meeting minutes**. A second was received. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

SECTION 4 - COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Richard, scheduled to present on behalf of the Finance Committee, was unable to attend due to illness. He will be present at the **October 2026 meeting**.

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SeptemberFest 2026 Recap

Council members staffed the ticket booth. The event was well-attended and ran smoothly. Weather was favorable, and parishioners expressed appreciation.ma

- Technical Issues - Square Payment System

  A report was received noting that Square payment issues were caused by weak Wi-Fi coverage in the parking lot. IT upgrades made 18 months ago had reduced outdoor coverage. Staff will work with IT to improve coverage for next year.

Parish Activity Highlights

Council members noted strong parish engagement:

- SeptemberFest
- Meal-packing event
- Color Games
- Faith Formation momentum
- Stewardship initiatives

Overall parish participation and energy remain high.

SECTION 5 - BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Door Repairs

- The third front door from the left had an extremely loud squeak. The issue was repaired prior to SeptemberFest.
- Another main church door (left side) was not latching properly. The push-bar mechanism will be inspected.

Marble Statues

- A new St. Michael statue will be installed across from the Piazza. All marble statues have been donated by Jake Palillo.

School Report - Father Martinez

- A "Back to School Bash" is planned for spring.
- Children are showing strong interest in the faith, inspiring parents to re-engage.

SECTION 6 - OLD BUSINESS

Italian American Club

Interest remains extremely high. Planning continues:

- Seeking affiliation with a Catholic-based Italian organization.
- Sons of Italy will not be formally involved, though cross-membership is expected.

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- Outreach made to the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Society in Connecticut.
- Initial gathering likely to be a Thursday pasta dinner hosted at St. Mark once facilities allow.

Christmas Decorations

- Coordination with Sister Mary Philomena will be required for interior decoration scheduling.

SECTION 7 - EYES & EARS (PARISHIONER FEEDBACK)

Parishioner Requests

Council members reported interest in reviving past parish offerings:

- Fireside Chats
- Extended Adoration periods (e.g., 72-hour perpetual adoration)

These items fall under the **Liturgy Committee**, but council members may support promotion and logistics.

SECTION 8 - PASTOR'S REPORT - FATHER JOHN PUTNAM

Construction & Facilities

- New Rectory: Occupancy certificate expected late October 2026 ; move-in likely late November 2026.
- Steel pricing has increased significantly due to national data center demand. Diocese and contractors will review cost-saving options.
- Waterline tap fee: Charlotte-Mecklenburg charges approximately $300,000.

Clergy Retreat

- Priests will be away the week of October 19-20.

Upcoming Liturgical Events

- Feast of St. Francis (500th anniversary of his death) will be celebrated this weekend.
- Blessing of the Animals will take place Saturday.
- Life Chain follows the Spanish Mass at 2:00 PM.

Marriage & Family Ministry

Father Putnam led an extended discussion on strengthening parish support for:

- Marriage preparation
- Newly married couples
- Families in crisis or special situations
- Young adults (college through age 35)

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Key points:

- Six-month marriage prep is often insufficient for deep formation.
- Parish seeks ways to support couples after marriage through small groups or ongoing formation.
- Cultural trends (e.g., NC Bill easing divorce requirements) highlight the need for stronger marriage catechesis.
- Opportunities exist to expand communication, conflict resolution, and spiritual formation resources.

Young Adult Ministry

- Young adults are connecting well with regional Catholic groups. Continued outreach is encouraged.

Parish Pastoral Plan

- All members are to review the 2024 Pastoral Plan in Microsoft Teams and be ready to discuss at next meeting.
- Some members reported login issues; troubleshooting will continue.

Additional Notes

- Pope Leo XIV recently condemned assisted suicide during a visit to France.
- Parish construction updates will continue monthly.

SECTION 9 - ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next meeting: Monday, October 26, 2026.
- Members must notify the Secretary in advance if unable to attend.
- Continued prayers for Chad Wilson and his family.

SECTION 10 - CLOSING PRAYER

Father John led the closing prayer, asking Christ to bless the council's efforts, forgive sins, and guide the parish toward the Kingdom.

SECTION 11 - ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at **7:53 PM**.

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