

Holy Family Parish Council Minutes
September 22, 2026
5:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order by President Amy Merschman. Fr. Beckman led the council in the Diocesan Prayer for Vocations.

Members present: Fr. Gary Beckman, Amy Merschman, Diane Powers, Kelly Giese, Floyd Krogmeier, Mike Panther, Mary Jo Mertens, Lorenzo Sanchez and James Boyles. Megan Rempe and Katie Englund were excused, Brenda Graham was absent.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended by adding approval of the August minutes by Mertens, seconded by Sanchez. Motion carried

HTC Report – Emily Biddenstadt had nothing to report as school board meets next Monday. Will email report to Amy.

4th Degree Knights sponsored a plaque at Rodeo. Ed Schroeder was welcomed as a guest.

Discussion of Chapter 6, Becoming the Good News followed. Kelly mentioned the need to have plan that we need to be strong. Set priorities with the Lord – spirit to spirit question. A quote attributed to St. Augustine, “God speaks to our heart. The word of God is Jesus Christ.” Read Chapter 7 for next meeting.

Comments by Fr. Beckman -- Had a few funerals this month, Mass at the prison, evening with Mark Forrest holy hour was great. Wish more parishioners had the opportunity to attend.

Mike Panther reported the rest of the cameras have been picked up. They should be online with the next couple of days. The new video screen in Roling Hall is working well but having trouble with the dvd player. He brought in a bench that is a sample of what he would like to install in the prayer garden before each station. The concrete bench in the garden is broken and he would like to get rid of that. The sample bench was purchased on Amazon for \$65. Discussion followed including the possibility of selling the benches as memorials and how that should be handled. Floyd Krogmeier asked how much it would cost to add a concrete pad under each bench. Another suggestion was rock under each bench. Amy Merschman noted that selling a bench for \$150 as a memorial would not be unreasonable. Motion by Mertens, seconded by Sanchez to approve the purchase of 15 benches for the prayer garden and to make them available to purchase by parishioners as a memorial at a cost of \$150. Motion carried.

113 families and individuals have had photos taken for the directory. There will be another opportunity for parishioners to have their photo taken for the parish directory October 11 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. There will be a movie night, showing “Miracle at Manchester” Saturday, October 17 in the green space next to Sacred Heart Church at 6:45 p.m. Information will be in the bulletin.

Religious ed began last week. First Reconciliation and Holy Communion meeting is tomorrow night. Confirmation meeting will be the following week. October 11 will be Sparking the Spirit at McAleer Hall. Joe Loving will be the speaker. OCIA begins next Monday from 6 to 7:30 at McAleer Hall. Susan Becker had some training sessions for six volunteers for parish health ministry. September is Suicide Awareness month. Will be doing a blood pressure screening in October.

Joe Peitz will be training a new server for 10:30 Mass.

Mary Jo visited with those helping with End of Month Meal. Seventy-one were served.

Social Media had no report submitted.

Lorenzo Sanchez tried to get someone to take over for Kathy Nelson's duties but was not successful.

Youth Group is going well. Have seven students so far.

Financial report – mentioned the ADA increase.

The safety film should be completed on the doors at Sacred Heart soon. Once cameras are online those with the password will be able to view on cell phone or computer.

Nothing to report on disposition of the convent.

Next meeting October 27, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting closed with prayer by Fr. Beckman.

Motion by Sanchez, seconded by Panther to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Powers