

Joint Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Summary
Hardwick Community Hall
August 12, 2026

Present: Fr Joshua Miller; Deacon Kevin Aaker arrived later, Travis Jenniges, Laura Luitjens, Travis Broesder, Melanie Madison, Joey Pick, Eric Woodley, Nancy Siebenahler, Nancy Stiles, Kyle Caskey (via Teams), Nicole Henrichs, Ryan Ridl (via Teams), Darrell Hemme, Patti Wieneke

Absent: Kim VanHoecke, Joyce Schmidt, Katie Baustian, Greg Carrow, Miguel Acevedo

1. Opening Prayer – Angelus led by Fr. Joshua
2. Review and approve minutes from previous meeting.
3. Reports
 - a. Pastor:
 - i. Personnel: Brandi Van Santen took another job. Stacey Ommen is temporarily assisting in the office at St. Catherine, with the potential to stay on long term.
 - ii. Sacraments: Discussed Baptism Preparation Classes
 - iii. Projects: Discussed St. Leo Maintenance Shed project, HVAC; St. Catherine Doyle Hall
 - iv. Priorities: Organize the offices and classrooms at both parishes to facilitate effective and efficient Faith Formation and Catechesis.
 - b. Faith Formation Report: Nicole
 - i. Totus Tuus, Camp Summit, Steubenville,
 - ii. Faith Formation Registration; Catechists needed, desire to start a youth group, The Mantle (high school kids), Formed.org,
 - iii. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Divine Mercy Homeschool Co-op, Wednesday Schedule at St. Leo's with release time.
4. Financial:
 - a. Ryan: St Leo: FY2025 ended with income exceeding expenses by \$4500; new budget complete; Diocesan Audit complete; results: successful, sustainability question for Noahs Ark Preschool; potential upcoming projects: replace windows, HVAC, Refurbished Tabernacle.
 - b. Patti: St. Catherine: don't have FY final numbers yet; expected to be down because of spending the money saved up for Doyle Hall, budget complete, Diocesan audit complete; results: successful, moved accounts different bank, Fall Fest Gambling permit (required for \$5000 or more in prizes)
5. Photo Directory Update: Laura is waiting for Fr. Joshua's letter. No candid photos, simple design. Expect a draft 20 days after submission of photos.
6. Business:

- a. Discussion on Pastoral Council Member election procedures
 - i. Elections will be in the spring, new members will start in the fall.
 - ii. Both parishes will have 6 elected members
 - iii. Darrell Hemme appointed to a one-year term as a St. Catherine Member.
 - iv. Each year, two new members will be elected from each parish so that the turnover is one third of the council not one half.
 - v. Election date TBD, probably Lent
 - vi. Executive Committee identified and approved:
 - 1. Chair: Melanie Madison
 - 2. Vice Chair: Nancy Siebenahler
 - 3. Secretary: Nancy Stiles
- 7. Synod Implementation (Evangelization and Vocations):
 - a. Discussion: St Paul Street Evangelization: Deb McMannimon will come to parishes to “train” on evangelizing the weekend of 24 October. Mass, Meal, and Message with a guest speaker. Need volunteer to coordinate the logistics.
- 8. Other business:
 - a. Fr. Joshua is responsible for publishing the summary of the Pastoral Council meetings for the parishioners.
 - b. Nicole: support for suicide prevention through the Rock County Project with purple light bulbs in the entry ways of the church for the month of September.
 - c. Using the Hardwick Community Hall for the pastoral council meeting was done to minimize driving for everyone. The consensus of the council prefers to drive and meet in the actual Church rather than the community hall.
- 9. Closing Prayer and Blessing led by Fr. Joshua

Next meeting will be at St. Leo's in Pipestone: Thurs, Sept 24, 6:30pm