

**St. Gabriel the Archangel Family of Parishes (SGFP)
Pastoral Council Meeting, March 18, 2026
Minutes**

1. Call to Order/Opening Prayer

Fr. Kyle Schnippel called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM, and Hector Guerara led the group in prayer. Chris Knief, PC Chair, was unable to attend, and so Fr. Kyle presided over the PC meeting. He welcomed all present to the meeting of the SGFP Pastoral Council (PC), which includes all five churches within the St. Gabriel the Archangel Family of Parishes: Holy Cross (HC), Our Lady of the Rosary (OLR), St. Christopher (SC), St. John the Baptist (SJB), and St. Peter (SP).

2. Roll Call

<p>Council Members Present: Fr. Kyle Schnippel (Pastor) Tabitha Bentz, SP Nancy Calvelage, SP Josh Doseck, SJB Jon Duren, SC Hector Guevara, SJB Rick Jobe, OLR Geone Neria, SP Mary Beth Paget, HC Matt Ross, OLR Joel Stammen, SC</p> <p>Council Members Absent: Chris Knief, SJB (Chair) John Underwood, SJB</p>	<p>Council Recorder: Marsha Loges</p> <p>Staff Present: Cameron Haller, Chief Operating Officer Norm Shearer, Director of Operations</p> <p>Guests Present: Mat Meadors, SC Parishioner Riley Timbrook, SP Parishioner Austin White, SC Parishioner</p>
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Old Business

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The January 19, 2026 PC Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted.

4. Committee Status

Fr. Kyle requested a report on the status of the various currently established PC Committees.

- a. Communication - Chair: Josh Doseck; Staff Liaison: Laura Joliat. Josh had no updates to report.
- b. Worship - Chair: Joel Stammen; Staff Liaison: Paula Kern. Rick Jobe reported that preparations are underway for the Holy Week services at Our Lady of the Rosary Church.

c. Facilities - Chair: Hector Guevara; Staff Liaison: Norm Shearer, Dennis McGarry. Hector gave a report from the January Facilities meeting. They are using software tools to prioritize facilities needs at each of the five campuses. They have generated spreadsheets identifying resources required and are communicating those needs to the Finance Committee. Hector said that the group is soliciting additional knowledgeable parishioners to assist in their efforts, and he gave a summary of ongoing projects at each campus.

d. Finance - currently on hold. No report.

e. Information Technology (IT) - Chair: John Underwood; Staff Liaison: Vacant. John was absent and so no report was given.

5. Canonical Merger Update

Fr. Kyle reported that the Canonical Merger Petition and various supporting documents have been submitted to the archdiocese Presbyteral Council and the Petition is on the agenda for their March meeting. He has received no negative feedback from any preliminary reviews, and he anticipates the SGFP merger will be approved. Target implementation is July 1, 2026.

6. Commission Handbook

Joel Stammen and Nancy Calvelage addressed the status of the SGFP PC Commission Handbook (formerly referred to as the PC Management Plan). The DRAFT document previously had been provided to all PC members for review and comment. Joel provided a brief overview of the document. A motion to approve the Commission Handbook as submitted was made and seconded, and the document was approved as written. It is a “living document” which can be revised as needed, as PC work progresses. Further discussion included the method and frequency of required communication feedback to the PC, and the need to discuss term limits for PC members.

New Business

7. Financial Report

Norm Shearer and Cameron Haller provided a high-level overview of the financial posture of SGFP, including each of the five churches and the three schools. The Budget for the upcoming fiscal year will be provided at the next PC meeting.

8. Pastor Council Member Discernment Process

Nancy Calvelage and Jon Duren reported plans regarding the discernment process for PC Membership. SGFP PC guidelines recommend up to 15 members on the Pastoral Council. Some current PC members have completed their terms or have chosen to step down; thus, four or five new members are needed. Over the next few weeks information will be communicated to parishioners via articles, bulletins, and announcements, regarding the pastoral council, its purpose, and responsibilities. Nominations for new PC members will be solicited, and an evening of “discernment” will be held on April 27, for parishioners who would like to be considered to become PC members.

9. Leadership Report Discussion

- a. Fr. Kyle presented his Leadership Report. Principal topics addressed included: 1) General - SGFP Canonical Merger, Staffing Changes, and PC Discernment; 2) Faith Formation; 3) Catholic Schools; 4) Finances; and, 5) Capital Projects. *See the detailed Report at Attachment 1.* Brief further discussion of selected topics took place.
- b. The Archdiocese of Cincinnati is undertaking an effort entitled Family Unity Discernment. Within the archdiocese, SGFP is aligned in the Emmanuel Deanery. During a series of meetings (April 11, May 9, May 30) in support of this effort, the SGFP Pastor, Family Leadership Team, and Pastoral Council will conduct orientation, strategic SWOT analysis, and synodal reflection with parishioners. The results of these considerations will help to form the basis for development of a strategic plan.

10. Parishioner Comments

The following comments were made:

- a. A parishioner suggested that in the development of a revised weekend Mass schedule, SGFP should consider adding a Sunday evening Mass.
- b. A parishioner suggested that parishioners should be reminded to adopt a spirit of reverence prior to each Mass, allowing for prayerful silence and reflection. Socializing should be restricted to the vestibule of the church, to avoid disturbing fellow parishioners who are praying.

11. Adjournment

Joel Stammen offered a prayer asking for the continued spiritual guidance for all parishioners. The PC Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM. The next PC meeting currently is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 20, 2026, 7 PM**, at St. John the Baptist Banquet Hall.

Attachment:

March 2026 Leadership Report

v/r, -mjl- 😊