Peace of Christ
Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2026

Council Members Present: Karen DeFord, Anthony Nozzi, Suzanne Stack, Steven Michalkow, Michael Abel, Ariana Braccio, Thomas Flaherty, Mark Figura
Parish Representatives Present: Fr. Peter Mottola
Excused: Kevin Russell
Recording Secretary: William Rein

Meeting Opened at 7:00 pm
Opening Prayer – Father Peter led the opening prayer.

Approval of the August 11 Meeting Minutes – were approved by a motion from Mark Figura and seconded by Steven Michalkow, all in attendance were in favor.

Pastor's Report – Fr. Peter Mottola

- Please refer to the 10/25 bulletin, along with our budget insert. Overall, our parish is financially doing very well. Engineers assessed our nine HVAC systems, some of which are original to the Church being built
- St. John's boiler is our most fragile/precarious. An action plan is actively being worked on
- St. Ambrose Church work finished, statue being repaired next week.
- City contacted Fr. Peter on October 20, after a study, they decided no guard rail will be built. City provided several recommendations. Research and analysis are continuing in order to decide next steps to better protect property.
- Finance director update, Patty Macera announced her retirement. January 8th will be her last day. If you know anyone who is mission oriented with a finance/CPA background, please encourage them to apply to the posted position
- St. John's interior proposal, asked the engineer John to provide a more concrete proposal and price points. More details to come.
- NYS Catholic Conference provided further information regarding a Federal Scholarship Tax Credit. In 2027, this brings the biggest change for schools since the diocese was created. NYS is a state that that opted in, so starting in 2027 if anyone makes a gift up to $1,700/person, $3,400 per couple, to a scholarship granting organization (SGO), then you will be credited $1,700 for your federal taxes. This is a big opportunity for St. Ambrose Academy. More details to come. If anyone is a CPA or can clarify this situation for parishioners, please let Fr. Peter know.
    - Not possible to earmark for a particular child. Can designate for a particular school
- Advent Preparation: Begins Sunday 11/29. Advent Soup Supper on Monday 11/30 at St. John. On Saturday 12/5, we have two events taking place in the morning. First is a pancake breakfast with Santa from 9am-12pm in Dailey Hall. Then we have the Advent prayer breakfast at St. John's hall from 9:30-11am with Dr. Angela Kristan speaking from Restore Health and Wellness. Lessons and Carols is collaborating with a Knights of Columbus dinner on Friday 12/18 starting at 5pm. Advent Penance Service will be held on Sat. 12/19 from 11am to 12:30pm in St. Ambrose Church.
- Same Christmas Mass schedule as last year.

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- 2027 Mass schedule, no news to report right now. Still a precarious position, with a very low number of priests. No indications of how the Bishop may act moving forward. Awaiting diocesan action before any major changes.

Feedback on Recent Parish Events, what went well, what could be changed

- Parish Picnic
  - 2025 parish picnic had dancing and live music. Having that in future years would be ideal
  - Timing: having it on Labor Day weekend not ideal. Later June or sometime in August mentioned.
  - Try to increase involvement for young adults
- North Winton Village Festival
  - Need more volunteers to set up at 8:30am, and clean up around 3/3:30pm
  - Needs at least one person, maybe two, spearheading this event. it would help planning and make this event thrive.

Pastoral Council Strategic Plan implementation update – Steven, Kevin, Ariana, Mark, Anthony, Suzanne

- Suzanne – update on social ministry, Marty Moynihan mentioned the back-to-school collection had an overwhelming positive response. Most items donated to St. Ambrose Academy and rest went to Community Place. Also looking ahead to the Advent Soup supper and Christmas collection for local shelters. Social Ministry also provides a monthly tithe from the parish. Parishioners could nominate different organizations. It was proposed that Suzanne share with Marty more communications, possibly in the bulletin about the good things happening with this team and the tithing program as this information is not well known.

Open Forum (general comments/ future meeting topics) – Anthony

- No additional comments

Closing Prayer – Fr Peter

Adjournment at 8:25pm

2026-27 Meeting Schedule:

- December 1st **, note, this meeting is at the parish office**
- February 23rd
- April 27th
- June 8th