

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes 2025-2026

Date: 01/06/2026	Time: 6:30-8:45 PM	Location: St. Malachi Conference Room
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Present: Christy Bartlet, Wyatt Bensken, Kathy Burke, Jan, Durkalski, Fr. Gurnick, Sr. Lizette, Brian Jecker, Sharon Lowe-Chapman, Ryan Mann, Charlene McElwee, Mike Pellegrino, Tom Perrego, Tom Stanton

The Flourishing Apostolic Church: Part IV — Worship

- Worship and Sacraments are central to parish life. At the Deanery level, parishes are beginning to discuss how to ensure that sacramental opportunities (such as Reconciliation, weekday Masses, and vigil Masses) are coordinated and scheduled at times and locations to best serve parishioners within the wider Deanery.
- St. Patrick Parish with St. Malachi Oratory is part of the Diocese's [Central Deanery](#), which includes near-West Side parishes.
- February's thematic focus is Evangelization and Faith Formation.

Vigil Masses

- A follow-up discussion on vigil Masses was inadvertently omitted from January's agenda and will be included on the February PPC agenda.

ChristLife Program

- The Faith Formation Commission and the Spiritual Life Commission are launching ChristLife, the first year of a five-year faith formation commitment.
 - The program consists of three sequential 7-week courses, each a prerequisite for the next.
 - Sessions will be held Wednesdays from 6:00–8:30 pm, beginning February 18 (Ash Wednesday).
 - Two full-day retreats are included.
 - The initial cohort goal is 30 participants, increasing to 50 participants in subsequent years.
- PPC members are encouraged to participate if available and will also be asked, along with each Parish Commission, to assist by providing meals for participants.
- Additional information will be shared after Masses and in the parish bulletin.

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Buildings & Grounds (B&G) Update

- Key elements of a draft Request for Proposal (RFP) were presented for hiring a consultant to develop a dual-campus Master Facility Plan.
 - The RFP is currently under diocesan review.
 - Tentative timeline:
 - RFP issued mid-January
 - Consultant selected by mid-March
- A non-negotiable condition is that, aside from possible mechanical, electrical, or safety upgrades, neither church building will be considered for right-sizing and both will remain houses of worship.

Coffee with Council

- A flyer was shared promoting the first “Coffee with Council” conversations, to be held after all Masses on January 25, including the Vigil Mass.
- Council members will receive an email with:
 - The updated flyer
 - A sign-up opportunity
 - A request for a brief biography to share with parishioners

PPC Guidelines

- An ad hoc committee continues work to align current Parish Pastoral Council guidelines with diocesan recommendations. Updates will be provided as progress continues.

Commission Leadership Dialogue

- A gathering of commission chairs, council leadership and parish leadership is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, February 21, 2026. The goal is to proactively strengthen communication, cooperation, and coordination among the newly formed commissions.
- Fr. Gurnick also plans to hold a touch-base meeting with commission chairs in the coming weeks.

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Pastor's Report

- Fr. Guncik is working with parish and diocesan stakeholders to finalize terms for the sale of the Center building to St. Malachi Center.
- The Finance Council will meet with diocesan officials to address issues related to merging the budgets of the two campuses.
- Deacon Dennis Conrad and former parish office manager Scott Menningen are aligning parish accounting and operational practices with diocesan guidelines.
- Beginning April 1, St. Patrick and St. Malachi will use the same collection-envelope vendor.
- A Social Events Calendar will be available next month. Upcoming events include:
 - St. Malachi Run – March 14
 - St. Patrick's Day Masses and Raffles – March 17
 - Bishop Malesic's Mass of Celebration (Vigil Mass) – April 11

Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 3

6:30–8:30 pm

St. Patrick's Ballroom

Opening Prayer: Wyatt Bensken

Closing Prayer: Kathy Burke