

# Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes 2025-2026

<b>Date:</b> 03/03/2026	<b>Time:</b> 6:30-8:45 PM	<b>Location:</b> St. Malachi's Conference Room
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Present: Christy Bartlet, Wyatt Bensken, Kathy Burke, Jan, Durkalski, Fr. Gurnick, Sr. Lizette, Brian Jecker, Sharon Lowe-Chapman (remote), Ryan Mann, Mike Pellegrino, Stephanie Pritts, Tom Stanton

## Education / Enrichment

- Council members completed the study of Bishop Malesic's The Flourishing Apostolic Church, focusing on the ministries of charity and service.
- The Deanery will play an important role in coordinating the full range of Ministries including Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy on Cleveland's near west side.
- Pope Francis's analogy of the Church as a "field hospital" continues to resonate with council members.
- Future Education/Enrichment sessions will focus on the Parish Pastoral Council Guidelines.

## Discussion / Planning

**Commission Leadership Dialogue (February 21, 2026):** Council reviewed feedback from the Commission Leadership Dialogue. The meeting was productive and highlighted several areas for improvement:

- Communication between commissions, particularly where responsibilities overlap
- Greater awareness of key contacts within ministries and commissions
- Improved communication and reporting to parishioners

**Chats with Council (February 21–22, 2026):** The initial Chat was received well and successful. Feedback received from parishioners was provided. Council discussed developing a process for responding to parishioner questions and concerns. Organizers of Chats with Council may exercise discretion in determining whether issues should be directed to parish staff, commissions, or the Parish Council. Council will revisit to discuss next steps and schedule future Chats at its next meeting.

**Social Concerns:** Council discussed how to respond pastorally to social concerns that can quickly dominate parishioners' public life, such as immigration or international conflicts.

- The Church's role is to help parishioners form their consciences through the lens of Catholic Social Teaching. While parish communications cannot follow the daily news cycle, several ideas were proposed:
  - Providing timely handouts from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops or the Diocese at Masses when appropriate
  - Offering forums, workshops, or educational materials on Catholic Social Teaching throughout the year
- The Ministries of Charity & Social Concerns Commission continues to consider how best to manage the scope of these two major areas of responsibility.

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**Saturday Vigil Mass Location:** The location of the Saturday Vigil Mass is being discussed by parish staff in consultation with relevant commissions. Feedback will be sought from parishioners who have been directly affected by the transition to one Vigil Mass per weekend.

## Upcoming Events:

Updates were provided on the following events:

- St. Malachi Run – March 14
- St. Patrick’s Day Mass, Breakfast, and Raffle – March 17

Council members are encouraged to attend both events, if possible, wearing their Parish Council badges.

An update was also provided on Bishop Malesic’s Mass of Celebration on April 11. Council discussed the potential impact of this event on Sunday liturgies the following day.

## Pastor’s Report

### Staff Updates:

- Christy Bartley will become a full-time staff member. In addition to her communications responsibilities, she will assume the role of campus manager for the St. Malachi campus, where her office will be located. Her new title is Director of Communications and Parish Program Support.
- Custodian staffing levels will be determined through the upcoming budget process. However, there may be an immediate need for a part-time custodian at St. Patrick’s to replace Josh Stinson, who resigned last month.

### Parish Updates:

- Dual-Campus Facility Study - On February 12, the parish issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to prospective consultants. Ten consultants attended a pre-bid meeting and walkthrough on February 20. Proposals are due March 18. An ad hoc committee will review submissions and recommend a consultant by April 22.
- St. Malachi Center Building - Pending completion of the legal process, the parish has agreed to terms to sell the St. Malachi Center building to the St. Malachi Center 501(c)(3).

## Next Meeting

**Date:** April 7, 2026

**Time:** 6:30–8:30 PM

**Location:** St. Patrick Campus

Opening Prayer: Charlene McElwee

Closing Prayer: Ryan Mann