

Final

St. Clare Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, March 4, 2026

6:30-8:00 pm, Fireside Room

Absent: Paddy, Dolly

OPENING PRAYER - Fr. Don

1. PASTOR'S REPORT- Fr. Don

- The parish is very busy with Lent. Many new things are “blossoming.”
- Interviews for the Administrative Assistant position are in process.
- The funeral for long-time parishioner Peter Cullen will be Saturday, March 7, at 11am.
- Reconciliation for the school will occur on Wednesday, March 11.

2. PASTORAL ASSOCIATE'S REPORT – Kim

- The ACTS Retreat for women will take place March 12-15. The retreat is full. Drivers are needed.
- Deacon Bill will present on vocations at the Dinner Talk on March 5.
- RCIA update: The Rite of Election has occurred and the Scrutinies begin the weekend of March 7. The Archdiocese of Portland has 1600 elect this year.
- Parish staff attended a presentation on evangelization which Kim felt was very well done. She explained that the first step is to bring people back who have left. David described a “postcard” idea for inviting people to participate in parish events.
- Lenten study groups are going well. There are more participants than last year.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Education (Maria) –
 - The school auction will be on April 18. The theme is Legends of the West. The auction team is currently conducting a wine drive. Auction tickets go on sale March 9.
 - The school-year total for the bottle-drop fundraiser is \$3000. St. Clare is currently leading the friendly competition with Holy Family.
 - St. Clare's Got Talent (annual talent show) will be held on Friday, May 8. Applications are due by April 3.
 - The dine-out fundraiser with Pastini (911 SW Taylor St.) will occur on March 12. Participants must mention St. Clare when they dine in or order out.
 - An adults-only Ceili Dance will occur on March 7, 7pm-9pm, and includes guided instruction.
 - The St. Clare Preschool Art Fair will take place on May 13.

- Outreach (Paul) –
 - **SVdP** – (Per Mary Bunday) Very high expenditures this month. Account balance is \$86,000+. We served 27 families this month totaling 90 people. Assistance with utilities totaled \$2438.51. Rent assistance was \$19,120.00. Vouchers need specific information such as what is allowed. We continue to provide food to Jackson and Markham. Olive Garden has made generous deliveries. Mary requested help with the following while she is on retreat: March 13 – help with any needs that may arise, March 14 – needs someone to open the garage door for the Boy Scouts, March 21 – help with the soup supper.
 - **André Bessett** – On Friday, February 20, a meatless dinner was served to 24 volunteers, staff, and seminarians as well as 57 guests (total of 97 meals, including second helpings).
 - **Prison Ministry** – Once again 5 people attended the recent visit. Essie Marcus (St. Clare parishioner) accompanied the group for her final time as a trainee. It appears she has fulfilled all certification requirements.
- Community Life (LeAnn) –
 - The Italian Dinner was a great success. The lasagna went over well and the two cooks are now great friends!
- Liturgy (Kim) –
 - The Lenten Reconciliation Service is planned for March 27 after the Soup Supper.
 - Marge Mey will continue to work on Environment until a replacement can be found.
- Finance/Giving Tuesday (Jim) –
 - Giving Tuesday was very successful and exceeded expectations. In order to prevent conflicts, the committee is asking that a fundraising calendar is created, and that parish groups ask permission to fundraise and seek cooperation.
 - There is general agreement that Santo has been a great help.
 - This committee will not meet again until August 2026.
- Survey Committee (Matt) –
 - Matt reported that there is not much movement right now. After April, interviews will occur and focus groups will be formed.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

- ACTION ITEM: Dolly will continue to research options for an online directory.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- Pastoral Council will sponsor the soup supper on March 27. LeAnn provided a sign-up sheet for PC members. She is expecting about 30 people. Set-up begins at 5:30, dinner will begin at 6:00, and Reconciliation is set for 6:30.

- Paul is planning additional articles for the bulletin regarding our parishioners. The next one up is Chris Griffith.
- Open Forum: Jim described a “Walk for Immigrants” that he participated in recently. Jim explained that there were no police and no ICE agents – only a safety patrol on bikes. PDX Resistance was the organizing group. The walk began at Fernwood Park with a prayer and singing. The walking group was comprised of approximately 500 people and stretched out over 5 blocks. Onlookers cheered and joined the singing. The event, which was very positive, was advertised as “a group of Catholics celebrating innocence.” It ended at St. Andrew Catholic Church in NE Portland.

Closing Prayer – Fr. Don

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 1, 6:30pm

ACTION ITEMS:

- Section 4: Old Business – Dolly will continue to research options for an online directory and software.