

# St. Thomas More Parish Council Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2025

St. Thomas More – Sacred Heart Room

Call to Order – 7:00 PM by Chair Elaine Stevens; Opening Prayer - Kevin Kauffeld.

Members present: Gustavo Amaya, Jared Anderson, Mary Carrico, John Colgan, Marian Dunkerley, Alma Machaen, Dennis Quigley, Dennis Sanders, Kevin Kauffeld, Elaine Stevens, Camille Warden, Matt Wurth, Fr. Mike Clark. Unable to Attend: Fr. Basilio Az Cuc .

Agenda Items:

1. Reports:

- a. Funeral Meals – List of kitchen items needed submitted (separate handout). No cost estimates provided. Discussion regarding whether or not the kitchen was inspected by Health Department; suggested to discuss with Tim Bray (Parish Admin).
  - b. HOPE Unlimited – STM was well represented; all priests present. K of C will match up to \$1000.
  - c. Stewardship booklet assistance – Elaine and Marian have volunteered to help edit; due for publication January 2026. Fr. Mike asked if we could include outside organizations.
  - d. Community Outreach – there has been a change with the Hospice volunteer arrangement; there has been no contact since July 2025. Suggested to reach out to Tim Bray for a contact for Hospice. John Colgan mentioned we should do more to raise awareness of need for stewardship. Fr. Mike suggested we include opportunities in the bulletin on a rotating basis. Marian advised there was an increase in interest in Dinner for 8 and three events are already planned.
  - e. 11 AM Mass ministry issues – shortage of volunteers. John Colgan offered to assist. Fr. Mike suggested addressing this from the pulpit to encourage family/friends; Marian said this might be best coming from the priests.
  - f. Parish Picnic Committee – Tabled until after Elaine speaks with Ann Morrow.
2. Fr. Mike – Strengthen the connection between the Parish and the school - Fr. Mike shared that he continues to follow up and is working with Roseann Whiting by talking to people at the school. Career development/assessment is ongoing by assessing gifts/skills in order to “right place” individuals where needed. Goals being designed for 18-24 months out. Deanery meeting included all priests, Kathy Falk (principal) and Bob Deering (Lourdes); Ging Smith not present. Falk advised things improving w/teachers and she will be speaking at all the parishes. A discussion followed about Faith Formation and physical classroom space. Elaine will talk with Katie Colgan. Fr. Mike reiterated that the space is for the whole community; SFD is doing outreach to homeschool community.
3. Tri-Parish Mission with Luke Spehar – Dennis Q. advised this event went well. Kevin stated that the music was great & Luke told a great story. Discussion about whether or not he appears in schools. Fr. Mike advised he has not been used in schools but is open to having a retreat with

HS students. Discussion regarding attendance; approximately 100-150 attending each night, but young adults not attending. How to target young adults (age 18-30); suggestions included activities like "Hike w/Fr. Mike" or the "Theology on Tap" that Fr. Basilio conducted. Other suggestions were to have catechism classes, events at night due to working hours, using apps or shows like Hallow or Busted Halo, outreach to the Newman Center.

4. November Meeting – canceled due to Thanksgiving.

Next Meeting – December 15<sup>th</sup> – Potluck Social at the Rectory.

NEW BUSINESS:

Elaine advised applications were available for the Giving Tree.

Opening Prayer – Fr. Mike

Closing Prayer – ?

Adjourn: 8:05 PM. Closing prayer – Marian Dunkerley

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Dunkerley, Secretary