

St. Patrick's Catholic Church — Pastoral Council Minutes

November 18, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. | Commons, St. Patrick Catholic Church

Present: Amy Tomlyanovich, Bill Ludwig, Christine Guevara, Cody Vanasse, Dan Koenigsfeld, Dianne Layton, Donna Bash, Joe Sevcik, Monica Boyer, Steve Hanson, Adam Schaefer (School Board), Fr. Ivan Nienhaus (Pastor), Marilyn Voorhees (Finance Council)

Absent: Faith Formation representative

1. Call to Order + Opening Prayer
 - The meeting was called to order by Monica Boyer at 6:31 p.m.
 - Council members recited the Pastoral Council Prayer, asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
2. Approval of October meeting minutes
 - Motion by Dianne to approve the October Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by Amy. Motion carried unanimously.
3. *Journey in Faith* update
 - Attendance was higher in the final *Journey in Faith* parish meeting last week. The deadline to submit feedback to the archdiocese is Nov 21. To submit feedback, visit <https://www.dbqjourneyinfaith.org> and click on the "FEEDBACK FORM" button.
4. Committee Minutes Review/Other Reports:
 - Finance Council (FC) – *November minutes*
 - **School Board update:** The Spanish teacher will start in January; in the interim the students are using Duolingo. Scrip previously had been used only for tuition; now it can be used for lunch, activity fees, and daycare. No one has yet applied for the open teacher aide position (for grades 5-6). In response to Marilyn's question about the COVID funds Mr. Wiebers replied that the funds were moved to the Preschool Daycare Miscellaneous Income and Preschool Miscellaneous Income. After discussing a line item in the income statement and the cash flow due to receiving ESA funds up front, the FC approved the school reports.
 - **Parish Finances:** Justin replied to Marilyn's questions about the Spring "3 in 1" account, sacrificial giving, and a parish life expense. After a lengthy discussion about the Matthew 25 program, the FC decided to place the item on their agenda for February. Items discussed under "Old Business" included *Foundation for the Future*, *Haiti*, *Journey in Faith*, and FC Bylaws. The FC approved a motion

Member Name, Position & Term

9 elected: 3-year term; up to 2 appointed: 1 year term

Monica Boyer, Chair (2028, 2nd term, elected)
Dianne Layton, Vice Chair (2026, 2nd term, elected)
Steve Hanson, Secretary (2028, 1st term, elected)
Donna Bash (2026, 2nd term, appointed)
Christine Guevara (2028, 1st term, elected)
Dan Koenigsfeld (2027, 1st term, elected)
Bill Ludwig (2028, 2nd term, elected)

Joe Sevcik (2028, 2nd term, elected)
Amy Tomlyanovich (2026, 2nd term, elected)
Cody Vanasse (2027, 1st term, elected)
Faith Formation Representative
Marilyn Voorhees, Finance Council Chair
Adam Schaefer, St. Patrick Catholic School Board Representative
Fr. Ivan Nienhaus, Pastor

to accept the FC Bylaws as written. The FC is expecting bids for the parking lot soon. Next FC meeting Feb 10.

- At the Pastoral Council (PC) meeting, Marilyn answered questions about the November FC minutes (above).
- Faith Formation (FF)
 - No update
- Social Justice (SJ) – *November minutes*
 - Cindy reported that the Matthew 25 food pantry served 60 households or 162 individuals in September; 46 households or 143 individuals in October. The youth group will assemble Blessing Bags on December 4 and deliver to the House of Hope the next day. The Giving Trees will go up on Nov 17, serving approximately 21 families at House of Hope. Cindy is recruiting parishioners to serve as “Matthew Angels” who will be contacted occasionally when there are special needs.
 - A representative from Bridges Out Of Poverty will occasionally attend the food pantry distributions to inform recipients about the program.
 - St. Patrick served 147 persons at the Community Meal on Oct 14; 149 persons on Nov 11.
 - **Haiti Committee:** A \$3,000 donation will be sent to our sister parish in Haiti to help them deal with the aftereffects of Hurricane Melissa. A group from PTPA (Parish Twinning Program of the Americas) will visit 15 parishes in Cap Haiti, including our sister parish, and report back to us. We submitted a donation of \$500 to PTPA to help defray the costs of the visit. We are still planning a water purification project at our sister parish.
 - At the PC meeting, Christine answered questions about the November SJ minutes (above). Christine shared that we recently learned that our sister parish was not seriously affected by the hurricane; everyone is safe.
- Liturgy – *October minutes and Mass counts*
 - **Arts and Environment:** (Jackie) Will put pictures in windows last week of October. New missalettes and Advent wreath Nov 24. Christmas decorations Dec 18; tree & poinsettias Dec 22.
 - **Communion ministers:** (Jane) Going well.
 - **Hospitality:** (Donna) Just one opening for this period.
 - **Lectors:** (Diane) New books will be available the weekend of Nov 8 and 9. New lector (high school student) will be trained.
 - **Music:** (Mary) One new cantor.
 - **Sacristans:** (Sara) There are 3 sacristans for Saturday Mass and 4 for the Sunday Masses.

Member Name, Position & Term

9 elected: 3-year term; up to 2 appointed: 1 year term

Monica Boyer, Chair (2028, 2nd term, elected)
Dianne Layton, Vice Chair (2026, 2nd term, elected)
Steve Hanson, Secretary (2028, 1st term, elected)
Donna Bash (2026, 2nd term, appointed)
Christine Guevara (2028, 1st term, elected)
Dan Koenigsfeld (2027, 1st term, elected)
Bill Ludwig (2028, 2nd term, elected)

Joe Sevcik (2028, 2nd term, elected)
Amy Tomlyanovich (2026, 2nd term, elected)
Cody Vanasse (2027, 1st term, elected)
Faith Formation Representative
Marilyn Voorhees, Finance Council Chair
Adam Schaefer, St. Patrick Catholic School Board Representative
Fr. Ivan Nienhaus, Pastor

- **Servers:** (AI) Eleven servers were trained this fall..
- **Mass Count in October:** averaged 1170 per week
- Next meeting Jan 27
- During discussion of the average weekend Mass attendance, the proposal was made that the pastoral council should submit a letter as feedback to the *Journey in Faith* website stating that it is not realistic to entertain the notion that two Masses per weekend would suffice at our parish. Dan volunteered to write a letter and submit it in the name of the pastoral council, after first sharing it with the council.
- **School Board – *September and October minutes***
 - The August minutes and consent agenda reports were approved. The teacher representatives reported on Grandparents Mass, after school activities, and one-on-one student meetings with the counselor. Principal Wiebers reported on Catholicity, FAST reading data, and AEA printing services. The school board approved the August financials. Under Old Business, there were short discussions of *Journey in Faith* and of the five-year plan. There was a discussion about the implications of possible significant growth in enrollment.
 - The board approved the consent agenda (September minutes and new hires). The teacher representatives reported that the split of 1st and 2nd grades into separate classes was going fine. Principal Wiebers reported on parent-teacher conferences, AI Reading Assistant, and the plan to hire an aide for the upper grades. The school board approved the September financials. The board engaged in discussions of *Journey in Faith*, enrollment guidelines, enrollment projections, and the budget planning timeline. Next meeting is Nov 17.
 - At the PC meeting, Adam answered questions and reported on a few items from last night's (Nov 17) school board meeting: the board has started the initial budget for the 2026-27 school year; tuition for parishioners will not exceed the ESA amount; there are various service projects underway; enrollment projection for 2026-27 is 210. There will be a decrease in the parish subsidy and the school will build a reserve with any surplus funds.
- **Marketing – *Updates since the October meeting***
 - Events recently promoted in the bulletin: the Litany of Remembrance/photos for All Souls on Nov. 2; the Knights' Vocations Dinner and the Catholic Daughters' Chili Sale, both on Nov. 8; and the semiannual New Members' Coffee & Donuts on Sunday, Nov. 16. Seeking feedback for New Member Coffee & Donuts.
 - Helped produce an end-of-year appeal letter and brochure.
 - Working on an updated design for the bulletin; will use Canva Pro design software.

Member Name, Position & Term

9 elected: 3-year term; up to 2 appointed: 1 year term

Monica Boyer, Chair (2028, 2nd term, elected)
 Dianne Layton, Vice Chair (2026, 2nd term, elected)
 Steve Hanson, Secretary (2028, 1st term, elected)
 Donna Bash (2026, 2nd term, appointed)
 Christine Guevara (2028, 1st term, elected)
 Dan Koenigsfeld (2027, 1st term, elected)
 Bill Ludwig (2028, 2nd term, elected)

Joe Sevcik (2028, 2nd term, elected)
 Amy Tomlyanovich (2026, 2nd term, elected)
 Cody Vanasse (2027, 1st term, elected)
 Faith Formation Representative
 Marilyn Voorhees, Finance Council Chair
 Adam Schaefer, St. Patrick Catholic School Board Representative
 Fr. Ivan Nienhaus, Pastor

- There was discussion of ideas on how to welcome new members. One-to-one connections are essential. We need to be intentionally welcoming. We should have a system in place by July when the new pastorates begin. The parish directory was identified as a tool that can be improved to help people connect with each other.
- Property and Campaign
 - No report
- Parish Life – *Fall Festival report/previous years comparison*
 - Revenue for 2025-26 is \$31,129; expenses total \$6,127. These are the revenue/expenses ratios for previous years: \$33,781/\$6,746 (2024-25); \$27,930/\$5,437 (2023-24); \$26,576/\$5,175 (2022-23).
 - We should also collect and report ticket sales and the number of people who attended.
- Legacy Society – *Not currently active, no update*

5. Comments, concerns, questions

- A special meeting will be held on January 6 to review parking lot bids and decide which one to approve.
- It was suggested that we ask Justin to publish a guide on how to make a qualified charitable contribution to the parish, or how to donate stock, etc.

6. Closing Prayer + Adjourn

- At 7:34 Donna made a motion to adjourn. Second by Marilyn. Motion carried unanimously.
- Closing prayer: Glory be
- Next meeting: Tuesday, January 6 at 6:30 p.m. Joint meeting of PC with Finance Council for parking lot project.
- Next regular PC meeting: Tuesday, February 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Hanson

Member Name, Position & Term

9 elected: 3-year term; up to 2 appointed: 1 year term

Monica Boyer, Chair (2028, 2nd term, elected)
 Dianne Layton, Vice Chair (2026, 2nd term, elected)
 Steve Hanson, Secretary (2028, 1st term, elected)
 Donna Bash (2026, 2nd term, appointed)
 Christine Guevara (2028, 1st term, elected)
 Dan Koenigsfeld (2027, 1st term, elected)
 Bill Ludwig (2028, 2nd term, elected)

Joe Sevcik (2028, 2nd term, elected)
 Amy Tomlyanovich (2026, 2nd term, elected)
 Cody Vanasse (2027, 1st term, elected)
 Faith Formation Representative
 Marilyn Voorhees, Finance Council Chair
 Adam Schaefer, St. Patrick Catholic School Board Representative
 Fr. Ivan Nienhaus, Pastor