Christ Our Light Unified Pastoral Minutes

Thursday, November 20, 2025 – 7:00 PM
Holy Redeemer Parish Hall

Prayer & Reflection –
The opening prayer was recited by Father Ken, and the Reading from Sacred Scripture was read aloud by Sue Bruns. Stacie Enneking read aloud the message from Pope Leo XIV. The Council reflected on the significance of both Saints Peter and Paul: structure and discipleship. In addition, the Council reflected on the insights of the readings, how one lives in the light of Christ, and how our Family of Parishes bring people together to live Christ's light. Finally, the Council offered intercessions for family, friends and loved ones of the Family.

Christ Our Light Projects - Overall plan
We are a family of parishes and our decisions affect one another. Part of the role of the Christ Our Light Staff and Unified Pastoral Council is to understand what is happening in each of our churches and how the decisions of each church fits into the overall plan for the COL family of parishes. We discussed some of the larger projects underway; not to dictate what each church has to do, but so that the plan also fits with the overall COL plan.

- The Archdiocese will ask if projects fit into our overall COL plan. Some churches within the diocese are half empty and so they will ask why we are doing projects such as expanding a church and building. They want us to have a collective understanding of how projects fit into the overall plan of the Family: financial overview of the whole parish, giving by age group, mass counts, etc (many things involved in maintaining a parish). They will ask if we are aware of our projected liabilities. We have a lot of growth (positive) in our Family. Maintaining our facilities is imperative. The goal is to stay away from deferred maintenance (projects that cannot be completed due to insufficient funds)

  Holy Redeemer:
  Projected: Increasing seating (250-300 seats), updating mechanical systems to the building, adding classrooms, connector and possibly a parish hall. They intend to do a feasibility study, with AOC support, to discern their demographics, fundraising potential and abilities to grow.
  Completed Projects: Parking lot, church HVAC system, normal maintenance, handicap restroom.

  St. John the Baptist:
  Projected: Church fire (repair or rebuild) The parish is unsure at this point Their goal is to build a church for years to come and serve the people of the community. There has been some damage to the rectory. The entire process is complicated: evaluating insurance estimates, hiring an architect and discerning needs of the parish such as physical space for religious education, more seating in church, and other space.

  St. Augustine:
  Projected: Steeple campaign complete and ready to do the steeple repairs, front entry repairs, window repairs, camera upgrades, southside sidewalks, parking lot repairs, .
  Completed: Northside handicap ramp and sidewalk replacement.

Precious Blood:
Projected: A 5-10 year plan is currently being organized. New metal church roof, new gutters, replace the carpet, cleaning the ceiling, metal door frames are chipping, outdoor lighting, outdoor metal surfaces are rusting, the parish sign needs repaired, gravel lot potential asphalt, crack seal parking lot,
Completed: new roof on carport (completed), rubber stair trends to basement (complete),

St. Sebastian:
Projected: looking to a potential electric organ, brickwork needs retucked, carpeting needs replaced, cemetery stone replacement,
Completed: Some painting and plaster work, opening more cemetery plots, plumbing,

St Rose:
Projected: Paint the restroom floor, painting the basement walls, plaster and Window Repair
Completed: Windows, Basement Restrooms. Drainage. Parking Lot Repairs, parish offices repairs and maintenance. Our Father's House.

Nativity:
Projected: repairs on rectory soffit, downspouts, drainage projects, electrical power supplies, reseal and reline the lot (future), new lawn mower,
Completed: recent projects (rectory heat, flatwork repair, century plotting,

St Joe:
Projected: parking lot pavement, rectory and school house need updates.
Completed: Church roof, window painting, tuckpoint all completed in the years past.

Christ Our Light Staff Transitions

a. Brenda Barhorst Music Director for St. John the Baptist and Precious Blood
b. Sarah Mescher K-12 CRE & Bruce Suchland Youth Minister and Confirmation Coordinator Holy Redeemer
c. Search and hiring process for a full time Director of Communications

Christ Our Light October Count 2025

We have reached a 4953 person average weekly attendance (4% increase over 2024) The feedback says we are inviting and have a welcoming presence, The Family also is having vitality. In addition people are more apt to travel for mass more so now than in the past.

Archdiocese of Cincinnati Partnership with Girl Scouts

The Archdiocese has a new Memorandum of Understanding established September 30, 2025 allowing Girl Scouts to use parish facilities.

Christ Our Light Updates

a. Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule (see below)

Christ Our Light Family of Parishes Events & Updates

Holy Redeemer -

Christ our King feast day, Sipping with the saints, NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference) representatives will be attending the national celebration.

Marion Catholic Community -

PB- Elected 4 new council, 5 year plan is being established, Ladies Sodality did a bake sale.

SJB- The SJB parish meeting was positive and well received, they gave praise to both the committee and Father, received a $500,000 donation from the Sisters of the Precious Blood, February will see a new fellowship opportunity for parishioners, offering two Built of Living Stones presentations on church guidelines for the design of new or renovated churches.

SR- A portion of the basement will undergo painting (including walls and floors), Bylaws were discussed and passed.

NA- a parishioner has volunteered to do snow removal

SS- sacristan will be retiring and discussion on how to replace

St. Augustine-

The Christmas Choir is preparing for the holiday season, Thanksgiving Dinner will be served, mission commission garage sale dropoff will begin, they spoke of the digital ministry fair.

St Joseph -

Bylaws were passed

Concluding Prayer - Beacons of Light Prayer

Next Meeting – Thursday, February 12, 2026

ATTENDANCE

Fr Ken Schnipke
Michelle Ashman (represented by Doug Billerman)
Nick Wilker
Amy Bergman
Erin Niekamp
Sue Bruns
Jenny Albers
Barb Kahlig
Tony Homan
Nate Kirwen
Mitch Schwieterman
Trevor Wynk
Jack Homan
Abby Moeller
Pam Meyer
Linda Baker
Stacie Enneking
Cory Ahrens
Tess Mescher
Mark Francis
Adam Koesters

Christ Our Light Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve
Tuesday PM, December 24, 2025
3:00 PM – Precious Blood
3:00 PM – Holy Redeemer
3:00 PM – St. Augustine
3:00 PM – St. Rose
5:00 PM – St. John (at PB)
5:00 PM – Holy Redeemer
5:00 PM – St. Augustine
7:30 PM – St. Augustine
7:30 PM – St. Sebastian
10:30 PM – St. John (at PB)

Christmas Day
Wednesday AM, December 25, 2025
8:00 AM – Nativity
8:00 AM – St. Augustine
8:30 AM – St. Joseph
9:00 AM – Precious Blood
10:00 AM – Holy Redeemer
10:00 AM – St. Augustine
11:00 AM – St. John (at PB)

Mary Mother of God, New Year's Eve
Tuesday PM, December 31, 2025
3:00 PM – St. Augustine
4:30 PM – Holy Redeemer
5:00 PM – St. John (at PB)
7:30 PM – St. Sebastian

Mary Mother of God, New Year's Day
Wednesday PM, January 1, 2026
8:00 AM – St. Joseph
8:30 AM – St. Rose
9:00 AM – Precious Blood
10:00 AM – Holy Redeemer
10:00 AM – St. Augustine
11:00 AM – St. John (at PB)
11:00 AM – Nativity