

Saint Michael's Parish Council
March 5, 2026
March Meeting Minutes

Those Present: Deacon Steve, Jerry Eckl, Carolyn Eck, Matt Connolly, Elizabeth Vandiver and Elaine Smith

Opening Prayer lead by Jerry Eckl

Old Business

- Approve February Minutes
Carolyn motioned to approve. Matt seconded the minutes. All were in favor.
- Election of Parish Council Members / By-Laws Update – Matt, Jerry and Teresa met regarding the election process in the by-laws. Matt explained the proposed changes to the by-laws. Changes included
 - Parish Council Secretary to be the church secretary (not a voting member of the council)
 - Have 6 members of the council instead of 7. The priest would still serve has having the final decision and be the tie breaking vote. The deacon is not a voting member since he is clergy.
 - Need to better define what “excessive non-attendance”
 - Cut down on the election time frame from 8 weeks to 4 weeks and start the election process the Sunday after Easter as opposed to the beginning of the year.
 - Under Article VII may appeal to the Diocese and not the Abbey since we are no longer owned by the Abbey.

New Business

- PSR Report –Jerry commented on the fantastic work of Melanie Connolly as DRE. Carolyn reported about the PSR retreat for the 2nd grade students.
- July Fourth Picnic – Carolyn said she is in the early process of planning for the July Fourth Picnic fundraiser. Matt suggested putting a note in the bulletin about asking for volunteers to be chairman of the picnic. Matt also suggested Father Patrick say something from the pulpit.
Deacon Steve and Matt suggested doing a bbq sauce fundraiser before the 4th and sell it by the pint.
- Father's Comments – Father was not present.

Since the First Thursday of the April is Holy Thursday the council voted to move April's meeting to the week prior on March 26th at 6pm. Matt motioned to close the meeting, Elizabeth seconded. All were in favor. Deacon Steve led the final prayer.

Next Meeting – March 26, 2026