

**Finance Council Meeting
4.29.2025**

- Father Edmund opened the meeting with a prayer and a minute of silence was held for Pope Francis
- Father Edmund noted that a letter would be going out to all members of the Parish council as well as the Finance council which would serve as both a letter of gratitude as well as a request to see who wished to continue to work on these councils in the future.
- The rental fee for the parking of cars on the St. Barbara's parking lot was discussed and it was suggested that the monthly rental fee should be discussed again, with the dealership.
- The latest income statements, for the eight months ended February 28 for St. Barbara's and St. Anthony's parishes, were reviewed and this review was led by the Business Manager, David McLean. Both parishes are reporting operating deficits. The more significant individual line items of income and expense were reviewed in detail. The most significant dollar change occurred in the amount of investment income received from fiscal year 2024 to fiscal year 2025, which declined significantly as a result of overall weakening economic conditions and a poor performing stock market.
- It was reported that hall rentals have increased significantly as a result of an effort to better utilize the hall for social functions.
- Father Edmund noted that all members of the Finance Council were being asked to think about ways of raising additional funds for the parish. The idea of introducing a "utilities" collection for St. Anthony's was raised. A few members noted that better financial communication needs to occur so that parishioners may better understand the financial needs of operating the parish, the two churches, and the rectory.
- A suggestion was made to possibly consider providing quarterly financial updates to parishioners. Finance members will contemplate putting forth ideas on how best to accomplish this, and possibly other alternative fund-raising suggestions.
- The Operations Manager, Nicole Wilson, led a discussion on the capital improvement projects which are needed by the Collaborative. Several projects were mentioned including: refurbishing Fr. Anadore Hall, repairing the kitchen floor and some other necessary improvements, adding a bathroom to St. Anthony's Church, fixing sink holes in the St. Barbara's parking lot, making other necessary improvements to the rectory especially a most needed improvement to the heating system, improvements to the interior of St. Anthony's Church, etc. All possible actions are being taken to avoid, and minimize, expenses but several capital needs are becoming quite urgent.
- It was noted that a new priest from Nigeria was expected to join the Collaborative in May.
- It was announced that, overall, attendance has increased at both parishes as compared to the prior fiscal year.