

**Woburn Catholic Collaborative
Pastoral Council Meeting - August 19, 2025**

The Woburn Catholic Collaborative (WCC) Pastoral Council was called to order with an opening prayer by Fr. Edmund Ugwoegbu at 6:00PM on August 19, 2025. Those members in attendance were Diane Autenzio, Joe Brown, MaryAnn Chorlton, Larry Murphy, Michelle Parks, Mary Ulliani, Jackie Wagner, Maureen Ward and Nicole Wilson. Parishioner, Richard Orpen, was also in attendance.

Fr. Edmund thanked everyone for all that they do for our collaborative. He will again reach out to all current Pastoral Council members who have not yet responded to his first request to let him know if they want to continue serving on the Council.

Jackie asked if the WCC would be interested in hosting a blessing of backpacks for children returning to school in September. Maureen thought that it is a great idea and will work towards implementing it this year.

Fr. Edmund reported on financial updates and repairs. The next utility collection will occur on the weekend of September 13-14 at both churches. The 2025-2026 Grand Annual for each church will launch at the end of September. The 5 or 6 sink holes in the parking lot of St. Barbara church have been filled at a cost of \$19,000. A large crack in the walkway near the rectory will be addressed. Due to gutters that were not wide enough for the steep pitch of the roof over the work sacristy at St. Barbara's church, significant water damage was discovered. Fortunately, insurance will cover the cost to remove and replace the floor and ceiling of the working sacristy as well as to install recessed lighting. In addition, a habitat that was made by an animal in an area below the air conditioning unit was found and removed.

St. Barbara's church will sponsor a fundraiser which entails selling engraved bricks to be placed around the statue of St. Barbara that is in front of the church building. Details will be forthcoming. It was suggested that a disclaimer should be made about not being responsible for damage to bricks once they have been installed.

Future projects for St. Anthony church include an extra bathroom, new air conditioning units (estimated cost - \$11,000-13,000) and replacing the altar rug with new flooring, perhaps tile.

A barbecue was suggested to welcome back parishioners of the WCC to be held at St. Barbara's church in early Fall. An ad hoc meeting may be necessary to coordinate this endeavor.

The next big step in the life of our collaborative will be the merger of St. Anthony and St. Barbara churches as one parish with a new name.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05PM following a closing prayer offered by Larry Murphy.