

**KR County Line Catholic Parishes
Pastoral Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 10, 2026
Location: St. Robert Bellarmine**

Present: Fr Hugo, Mike Leshok, Susan Ludwig, Mary Kay Walsh, Larry Pileski, Jean Petersen, Donna Jaworski, Dianne Funk, Mark Niccolai, Tom Czerniak, Lynn Johnsen, Gina Halter, Ellen Galvan, Cathy Jacobs, Glen Bordak, Chris Franko

Excused: Jane Serdynski, Linda DeBrabander

Meeting called to order at: 7:00 pm by Gina Halter, council chair

I. Opening Prayer: Fr Hugo

II. Approval of prior minutes:

Motion made by Glen Bordak to approve the December 9, 2025 minutes; seconded by Tom Czerniak and motion carried

III. Parish Administrator/Pastor Report: Fr Hugo

-Fr Hugo recently participated in the installation of Bishop Hicks as Archbishop in New York. He was attending with many other priests and bishops.

-Upcoming Catholic Stewardship Appeal: ideas to encourage participation and giving discussed. One suggestion was to play a video or audio message from the Archdiocese in place of the homily. Mike Leshok will reach out to the Archdiocese for the audio.

-The Maronite community has departed and are now at St. Louis Catholic Church in Caledonia. The KR Catholic leadership and community are grateful for the past Maronite presence here and for Fr Joe's service, ministry, and support of our KR Catholic Parishes. The new Maronite priest will not live at the SJB rectory.

-Stations of the Cross for lent: Volunteer support will be needed. Ideas for location and day/time were discussed. Council members should email Fr Hugo and Mike Leshok by 2/12/26 with name of a volunteer leader for planning and decision-making. Stations are already planned as part of Faith Formation on Wednesday 4/1/2026 at 5:30 PM at SRB.

-SJB will host a St. Patrick's Day dinner fundraiser on Saturday 3/7, hoping for strong attendance. Archbishop Jeffrey Grob is planning to attend after saying Mass at SMD at 5 PM.

-SFX renovations: a group of parish member volunteers is generating and assessing ideas for in-church renovations, including meeting with Conrad Schmitt Studios and considering use of the donated altarpiece.

-New parishioners: Fr Hugo would like to provide them with a welcome bag. Cathy Jacobs made suggestions of who could help.

-Council member retreat: the Archdiocese recommends that the parish priest be present and the council should attempt to have yearly retreats. Jean Petersen will contact the St Iakovos Retreat Center with a goal of rescheduling the retreat on 4/18 or 4/25/26.

-Council Meeting day/ time changes discussed; no planned change at this time.

IV. Director of Administration Report: Mike Leshok

-Mike discussed plan/ recommendation to eliminate the Parish Peek calendar in it's current form. A motion was made by Tom Czerniak to eliminate the Parish Peek, seconded by Dianne Funk. The motion carried.

-KR Catholic Parishes website upgrade is needed. LPI provides website services. Currently being considered: a) upgrade for \$900 initial fee plus yearly fees, b) "free" upgrade funded by ads vs donations.

-Parish Soft maintains the parishes' database and tracks giving. Parish Soft costs \$2000 per parish yearly. Mike is looking for other options for these services.

-Social media: KR Catholic Parishes has a goal of increasing use of/ presence on social media; for example posting 3 posts per week on facebook and Instagram. Mike would like a parishioner to serve as a volunteer to help with this- the volunteer would have to communicate closely with Mike and Fr Hugo. If a volunteer is identified, please direct to Mike.

-Electronic newsletter sent via weekly email is being considered; this would be like an e-version of the Bulletin and require use of email addresses. It would contain links to sign up for festivals, events, etc. It could be used to send out special alerts and cancellations. Mike will send an example of the newsletter to council members. A motion was made by Tom Czerniak to research an upgrade to the KR Catholic Parishes' data system, seconded by Lynn Johnsen, opposed by Cathy Jacobs. The motion carried.

V. Old Business:

A. Parish Council Retreat: See Fr. Hugo's report/update

VI. New Business:

A. Envelope reorganization update was provided by Lynn Johnsen. KR Catholic Parishes are currently using two different companies (SRB & SMC; SJB & SFX). The finance committee's role in this matter is to review and update envelopes and to review how well on-line contributions are working and being used.

VII. Committee Reports:

*** = See Committee reports sent with current Agenda for review

A. Finance:

a. SMD

-Grotto refurbish is almost done. Glass work will be done in spring
-Lasagna Dinner fundraiser will be held 2/14/26

b. SJB

-Future revitalization projects are being considered. Rectory renovation will allow for future rental

- Parish is financially sound. The Parish will have a town hall meeting for parishioners to review the past year and discuss future plans

- SJB will host a St. Patrick's Day dinner fundraiser on Saturday 3/7

c. SFX

- Finances are in good standing.

- Currently in Phase 2 of 3 for replacement/ repair of Parish roofs. Buildings and Grounds committee continues to meet

- Church interior beautification research and planning is in process

- SFX gifted Fr Joe \$500

d. SRB

- Annual meeting was held. Financials are in the black for end of the year

- Parish is hoping to increase revenue, meeting planned. One idea is Bingo

- BBQ Chicken dinner was held in October, \$3,700 profit reported

B. ***Pastoral Associate Report

C. ***Christian Formation Youth and Adult

D. ***Prayer & Worship

E. ***Human Concerns

F. Knights of Columbus

- Holy Family prayer cards were handed out in churches in January

- Marriage prayer cards are coming up

G. ***Quad Quilters (QQ)

H. Communications

- The Communications Committee focus is currently on use/ content of bulletins and the website. Getting more information into the bulletins is a goal. Adding pictures of parish groups and events to parish-wide communications is recommended to better showcase what parish life looks like.

VIII. **Closing Prayer:** Fr Hugo

Next Pastoral Advisory Committee meeting: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at SJB at 7pm

A motion was made by Mary Kay Walsh to adjourn the meetings; seconded by Susan Ludwig. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Ludwig