

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting November 2025

Present: Rick Markins, Jeff Usher, Michele Rosenbaum, Mark Misner, Cac Diehr, Consuelo Quiroz, Peggy Clegg, Tom Costello, Angie Mackell, Caroline Mages, Carol Wehlage, Chris Johnson, Fr. Jude

Not Present: Lauren Lay, Amy Torzewski, Greg Slisz

1. Opening Prayer – Chris Johnson opened the meeting with prayer
 2. Introduce newest PC members - Consuelo Quiroz and Jeff Usher
 - a. Round table introductions – Council members introduced themselves
 3. Review and approve minutes - September 2025 meeting – Cac moved to approve and Carol seconded the motion.
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4. Old Business
 - a. Mr. Kevin Gawrys guest speaker - new office project

Rick summarized the last meeting when Kevin Gawrys came in to talk about a proposed project to add a new front office to the building. Safety is the biggest consideration. Many locations suggested. About \$1,000,000 project. Hoping to apply for a Homeland Security Grant that will match money raised. Jeff asked about an RFP (request for proposal). Angie says the project is just in the conversation/talking stages.
 - b. Father Jude - Next year's project list is growing - necessary safety improvements around campus, cameras, lighting, church doors, etc.

Fr. Jude mentioned last meeting about a long list of projects for the coming year to improve safety/security, especially lighting concerns.
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5. New Business
 - a. Parish survey - Mass schedule

We will need to create a survey for the parish about the Mass schedule (reduce from 3 to 2 Masses). This is so the whole parish is involved in the decision making of which Mass to get rid of. We need to work on a timeline of when this change needs to happen and work backwards. How do we send a message that decreases disappointment? Fr. Jude says the new schedule will be implemented the first week of June. The survey should go out during lent (maybe in March?). Average attendance 90-100 on Saturday evening and closer to 160 for Sunday evening. The number of Masses is based on attendance. If attendance increases

at Saturday and Sunday evening Masses, we could keep both. We are down from Pre-Pandemic numbers. Should we do paper or online survey? How do we combat people filling out multiple surveys? How long do we leave it open? Fr. Jude says we will have lots of people in the pews during Lent, let's just do paper surveys in the pews for 2 weekends. We can even use time during Mass to fill them out. We can have them put their surveys in the collection basket (or a special collection). We will not check names against the parishioner list. The Mass time does have to be the only purpose of the survey; we can ask other questions and opinions. Tom and Rick suggest that if we are doing in the pews, we should limit it to Mass times and we can do a longer survey separately (online).

Survey Ideas:

- Have survey out February 21-22 and February 28-March 1
- Pick the option you want (5:30, 6:00, no opinion)
- Name spot (can tabulate no names separately and use them if necessary)
- Additional comments spot (venting opportunity)
- Give a "why" statement at the top
- Introduce the survey in the bulletin (2 weeks ahead of time), email, and pulpit announcement
- We can mock up some ideas and discuss at the next meeting (Jeff will work on this)

Concerns/Comments on specific Mass times:

- If 5:30 goes away, it will affect a lot of older, long term parishioners (they may go to 4 at Lourdes)
- There are collection concerns no matter what Mass goes away
- We like that people from other places come to our 6pm (and maybe we get new people)
- 6pm feels like it has more life (Tom)
- 5:30 goers are more likely to stay committed to LF
- Can we move Sunday to 5:30 if we get rid of Saturday 5:30? The earlier time may appeal to more people

- b. We will need to develop a process to appointing future Parish Council membership

We need more parish involvement for how new council members are selected (vote) – further discussion to come at the next meeting. Parish voting for at-large members, council election for executive positions. The election should happen in

may (by laws would need to be changed). May is a time when people will be around (before Summerfest and vacations). Parishioners will nominate potential council members (themselves or others).

- c. Executive meeting - Putting together an agenda for the PC meetings
The Executive meeting is mainly to set the agenda for the upcoming meeting. We need more involvement from the council members for suggestions for agenda items (reminder sent out 2-3 weeks ahead of next meeting). Members can send in agenda items and the executive council will no longer meet. Publishing minutes can be a way to generate agenda items so we can start doing that. We can't expect parishioners to want to join the parish council if they don't know what we do.

6. Current State of the Parish

Report from Angie: We need new church doors. You can't get out unless you have a key. We now lock doors during school Masses. We need doors with panic bars so they can be locked, but people can get out. We received a quote with glass that will not shatter when a bullet goes through it (6 doors): \$100,000+ (we should include one with a handicap accessibility). We can potentially use Summerfest proceeds from 2026 for this project, along with other grants. We don't want to wait until next October to apply for a homeland security grant. This is an important safety measure to be taken sooner rather than later. The doors are just 1 part of a bigger safety plan for the parish (cpr training, more/younger ushers that can handle an issue, aed).

What would festival proceeds go to if not the doors?

- We want to have building assessments done (exterior only) and total it would be \$18,000 just to see what we need to do
- Front of the school building has some safety concerns (cracks); looking at grants for that one (\$100,000)
- Crushed drain pipe that causes severe flooding in the school (looking into reserve funds because this is not an attractive project)

7. Commission Reports

Angie will be giving a state of the parish talk at Masses this weekend.

Liturgy: 300 families are identified as possibly being inactive. They are in the process of surveying them to see if they want to remain a part of the parish.

Invite commission: when was the last time you invited someone to church? Let's put this in the bulletin for people to think about.

Parish life: first full weekend of every month new parishioner registration table (only 3 people and since Michelle Fischer passed, no one to take her spot) – thinking about changing to only doing every other month. Wanting to update a board to include vocations information. Blood pressure checks – does anyone know anyone who could help out with those?

8. Final words from Father Jude

Fr. Jude closed with prayer.