

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting January 2026

Present: Rick Markins, Jeff Usher, Michele Rosenbaum, Lauren Lay, Amy Torzewski, Mark Misner, Cac Diehr, Consuelo Quiroz, Peggy Clegg, Angie Mackell, Chris Johnson, Fr. Jude, Deacon Gary

Not Present: Tom Costello, Caroline Mages, Carol Wehlage, Greg Slisz

1. Consuelo led us in the opening prayer.
2. Minutes from the November meeting were approved quickly.
3. Officer's Reports
 - a. Chris – Trying to find examples of bylaws from parishes who elect their parish council members
 - i. Father Jude provided a set from St. Thomas Aquinas
 - ii. Rick has reached out to St Marys in Greensburg
 - b. Refinished Pews – Still waiting for an exact color for the new pews. Floors will be completely stripped as pews are removed. Bathroom floors will be stripped and waxed too. New lights will be installed in the church also.
4. Old Business
 - a. Parish Survey of mass times –
 - i. Timeline looked good to everyone
 - ii. Questions will be left as is, with the exception of the change to "Parish Decision".
5. New Business –
 - a. Holy Week mass schedules – Father Jude proposed to have Holy Thursday and Good Friday services at Lourdes with the Easter Vigil at Little Flower. The next year it would switch with the first 2 at Little Flower and then the Easter Vigil at Lourdes. Ash Wednesday mass would be done at both parishes.
 - b. Discussion was had about stations of the cross continuing to be held around the Fish Fry's during Lent. Decision as to who would lead stations of the cross was not decided.
 - c. Are there any other speakers (Kevin Gawreis was given as an example) we would like to see speak at our PC meetings.
 - i. A Parishioner from Lourdes – maybe parish council chairperson, Matthew Fallon, Eileen the business manager...
 - ii. Building and grounds committee person – no one in charge of that, at the moment, but Steve Clegg has been asked to head this up
 - iii. Men's Club President?
 - iv. Dean Cheever?
 - v. A Person who specializes with Evangelization

- d. Do we need a PC team member who focuses on a social media presence for the PC? It was discussed that a person to head this up might need to be a staff person rather than a volunteer position. Rick gave the example of Google Reviews he has seen about the Parish regarding people who have visited the church and posted a Google review of it. Rick thought it could be a good way to communicate and advertise.
- e. Commission Leaders – Is there something we can do as a PC to help the commission leaders
 - i. The last Commission fair was in 2024, and it was not well attended. Jeff commented that he attended this, signed up for a few commissions, and never heard back. Consuelo offered to have a table for Spanish speaking parishioners and help with getting them involved.
 - ii. A few commissions do not have leaders, and some that do are in name only. We are struggling to get people to commit their time to leading the commissions.
 - iii. Father Jude asked if we could combine commissions since we are having trouble getting enough people to lead them?
 - iv. Angie will work on updating the Org. Chart to help us with understanding how groups fit into different commissions. This may be ready by our next meeting.
- 6. Elections for Parish Council for next year
 - a. Bylaws were discussed and Jeff read through several of them. Rick suggested a lot of this can be done through email like the survey was done. Jeff offered to help Chris and Rick with this.
 - b. We have one set from St. Thomas Aquinas and are looking for another one.
- 7. Parish Council minutes will be posted in the Theresean. They will be approved before being submitted into the Theresean.
- 8. Current State of the Parish –
 - a. A contract has been signed to get new church doors. Festival proceeds from the 2026 Festival will be used to pay for the doors. They will have panic bars and be able to lock during school masses. They should be installed sometime this spring. One door would have a push button to be ADA compliant. Cost in excess of \$100,000. Doors will be frosted at some point.
 - b. Church Windows will be cleaned
 - c. Ceiling Fan blades will be removed

- d. The boiler had to be fixed in the Rectory. It is a secondary heat source but needs to be fixed.
 - e. Al Pulley – he is doing assessments on all of our building exteriors. He will eventually do Interiors but for now just exteriors
 - f. Trying to add lighting all around campus but mainly in the parking lot. AES is not very responsive at the moment.
 - g. Snow removal has been effective by a new person.
 - h. A tree fell in front of the school today. It was mostly removed
 - i. K&K Fence is repairing part of a fence that was damaged.
 - j. Directories – there have been some issues with the company we contracted with. The directory may not be a hard cover as was originally promised.
9. Commissions – Each meeting we could highlight a specific commission for them to highlight what is happening within their commission.
10. January 21st we will start working on the hiring process for a new principal.
11. September 21st – There will be a special mass with the Archbishop.