

St. Catherine Pastoral Council Minutes

January 12, 2026, 5:30 - 7:12p.m.

Present: Fr. Peter Patrick, Jeff Morzinski, Mary Krolikowski, Toni Wagner, Kathy Hazen, Dayna Gramoll, Colleen Plakut, Tonya Johnson, Kelly Guthery, Kris Reck, Lauren Bondhus, Joe Brien

Excused: n/a Absent: n/a

Mission Statement:

We are a Christ-centered community, the vital and spiritual presence of the Catholic Church in Sherman Park and beyond.

Living the Gospel we:

- Welcome all to participate with us
- Learn and grow through God’s love
- Join with others to serve the needs of our community
- Honor the sanctity and diversity of life, and
- Celebrate the joy of our faith and community

Prayer and shared reflection: Psalm 23; theme - Presence

Topic	Discussion & Recommendations
Approval of Dec 2025 minutes	Minutes were approved in person due to recent edits.
Next meeting	Virtual or in-person?--> In-person with the option to be virtual meeting, weather dependent.
Pastor Report	Fr taking a 7 day trip to Teosinte Wed, Jan 14 - Jan 21st. Fr expressed his appreciation for the collaboration of Christmas decoration clean up, fellowship, and Eucharistic homebound ministry training on Sunday. Changes on 2nd/4th Saturdays (starting during Lent and continuing forward) at St. Catherine: Mass/Adoration/Reconciliation. Purposely on these days to invite the people using the Food Pantry to attend. Fr stated that the daycare should have more support/focus. He wants to hear from the Daycare committee at the next meeting.

Administrator's Report

Busy time for Tonya ending the calendar year. (Tax statements/vendor billing.)

Thema Grant - application window was Dec 16-Jan 15 and was submitted. If grant is not approved, it will be resubmitted for 2027. Other resources will be given to us if we do not get grant money this year. (Reminder that the grant is for Security = Enhanced lighting, cameras, key fobs)

DAYCARE - Youngstart meeting for daycare at the end of January. (We are still at 3-star rating. Aim is to get a 4-star rating.)

CONVENT -

1) Walkthru by **Serenity Inns** (Assist with temp housing, addiction, counseling for men). Ken Gerlack is putting together a proposal for the board at SI. **Needs on the part of St Catherine:** insurance company has to finish the work on the convent. Radiators are an issue - Butters Fetting will do an assessment before a tenant is in the building. Hope to have move-in by March 1.

2) A women's org (Assists with homelessness/temp housing) is coming for walkthru on Friday, Jan 16. No funding currently. Situation TBD.

B&G NEWS - The school gym doors have been replaced (due to asbestos). School boiler has been updated. LOA funds used for payment on boiler. Waiver proxy signatures by trustees and Fr. PP. completed during meeting today.

Snow removal contractor is doing well so far this season.

OTHER -

1) New Archdiocesan website will be launched soon - February 2026. Tonya will be going for the training.

2) Chant Claire choir. May 16th - they want to use the church for a concert. 7pm. (Requirements can be gleaned from St Sebastian, as they are used to hosting outside groups. Tonya/Mary Brooks to follow up.)

3) Jeff asked for an update on the fence for school playground: It will be installed in the spring. School and daycare benefit. Shared expense.

4) Per request from Seton, a discussion ensued about closing the sliding gate to the parking lot during the school day.

Safety is an issue both to open/close gate if alone or to keep it open while children at recess as

<p>Ongoing business</p>	<p>people have been trespassing and/or parking illegally. Keep it closed JUST for recess? Referred to Building & Grounds for further discussion</p> <p>a. Retreat Planning Task Force Kris Reck and Kathy Hazen will start working with St Sebastian pastoral council representatives for retreat planning for October 2026. Colleen Plakut to supply wisdom as needed/requested.</p> <p>b. Changing SCHOOL committee - Kelly asked for feedback on how to best support the school. Discussion about what was currently being done. Challenges of parishioners helping = safety training. Father said to wait for a meeting with James Schultz from Seton (Catholic Identity) and then come back next month and report. How are we progressing? What are we looking for?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Calendar of events needed ● Endowment grant for literature? SPARK teacher to give input. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Love suggested a learning about the saints. Toni suggested a presentation about the windows in church. <p>c. Evangelization</p> <p>a. Food pantry update - Mary K. has talked to Rob/Jane. Revamping circulation of people in the Food Pantry is approved and will be worked out in upcoming months. Jane mentioned that there are many volunteers at this point. Suggestion: have a list of “Backup People” who can fill in if one of the regular volunteers cannot be there. Backup People could also be the ones to sit and chat with Food Pantry Users who have a cup of coffee/snack.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Sidenote: St Seb school is doing a cereal challenge to benefit Food Pantry. (1000 boxes)</p> <p>d. Evaluations - Welcome Sunday, Eucharistic Ministry training General discussion was that it was a busy day at the parish to start Fellowship Sunday, but overall, it went well as people were chatting as decorations were taken down and the food/drink was gone by the end of the event(s).</p> <p>e. Processes</p> <p>a. Jeff’s checklist for registration of new members. Let Jeff know if you have any additional comments.</p>
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- Suggestion: One dedicated space for the folders (Not on the shelf as it is now.) Perhaps a wall mounted file/chart holder?
- Toni and Jeff to lead a (brief!) explanation/walkthrough of the registration process at the next PC meeting to re-familiarize everyone with it.

b. Toni will furnish a process for hosting committees for Fellowship Sunday.

- List of new members will be read at Mass. *Also*, Toni suggested those who are new to stand up and be recognized, as this allows everyone to put a face with the name.
- Committees can describe their ministries—when? What kind of forum? Pulpit talk (3 min)? Talking points on a flyer? Display?
- How to get the groups to volunteer to host? **ACTION ITEM:** Liaisons to check in with their committees and report back.

Upcoming Hosts of Fellowship Sundays: (suggested)

FEB - Souper Sunday - Food Pantry.

- A Food Pantry rep to give an explanation of what the Food Pantry does for the community.
- Kelly volunteered to create a board with all committees on it so that interested parishioners can put their names and contact information on a Post-It for follow up.

MAR - *Open*

APR - Trail Experience/B&G/Green Team

May - Friends for Life?

SEP - St. Vincent de Paul

OCT - School Committee

Joe expressed a wish to have an Alzheimer's Non-profit group be present. Mary K. to explore possibilities.

c. Pancake Breakfast - Freewill Donation follow up: Toni said she was told by one member of the Pancake Breakfast crew that they do not think it will work to have “freewill donation”, as people are used to it the way it is.

What does the money from Pancake Breakfast support? → Goes into the Blueberry Athletic Fund, which provides food for events such as the Parish Picnic every June.

DEFERRED ITEMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ongoing business process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ for volunteering for ministries (invitation and stepping up)—follow up on updating and publicizing contact persons ○ Action word banners—Toni ● Other Business: School repairs - how does this affect our budget? ● Strategic Planning - recap: Mary K. provided copies of planning tables featuring goals and objectives based on our mission statement. PLEASE review and then write the strengths and weaknesses of one or more goals, strategies to strengthen them if possible. Rank them as easy or difficult.
Pastoral Council liaisons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mary Brooks asked Homebound Ministry to take bulletins, calendars, books (such as the Matthew Kelly gifts to Parishioners from Christmas), prayer shawls from St. Sebs. ● Mary K expressed concern on behalf of the Facing Racism group in regards to the Swahili Mass - ICE agents potentially targeting the immigrant population. Fr stated that he does not see fear right now but he will check in with the group and report back.
Other business/comments/events	Parish Website overhaul - Identify what needs to be changed. Colleen is working with Carole Poth. but would like feedback from all.
Pulpit Announcements	1/18 Mary K 1/25 Kelly G 2/1 Kathy H 2/8 Colleen P
	Our deliberations tonight helped to further our Parish Mission bytalking about what we are all doing for the parish and people picking up assignments.
Closing prayer	Our Father

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Bondhus

Next meeting - February 9 at 5:30 pm FKCC