

St. Catherine Pastoral Council Minutes

March 9, 2026, 5:30 - 6:39 p.m.

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

Excused: Kathy Hazen 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: Matthew 18:21-22 ; theme - Forgiveness

Topic	Discussion & Recommendations
Approval of Feb 2026 minutes	Minutes were approved via email
Pastor Report	<p>Thanks, everyone, for helping with the visit from the Archbishop.</p> <p>Father posed the following question: What do people want or need when they have spiritual issues? How to get more involvement from parishioners (particularly those who currently do not attend events) and add to continuous formation?</p> <p>Suggestions: small prayer groups. Life and spirit seminar.</p> <p>Facing racism has a format of sending materials during the week to work on/digest, then having a group Zoom meeting later to discuss thoughts.</p> <p>Father shared that “Healing of the whole person” = focus of the archdiocese right now.</p>

<p>Administrator's Report</p>	<p>Mary and Tonya met and decided that the Admin report is covered in the Finance and Building and Grounds minutes. Tonya will continue to attend PC meetings as a resource. We are encouraged to ask questions during the meeting or send Tonya an email ahead of time if there are specific items to be discussed.</p> <p>If there are questions for the council from other committees, that should be highlighted by the committee in the meeting minutes. Liaisons to be accountable for bringing things up that need to be on the Pastoral Council agenda.</p>
<p>Ongoing business</p>	<p>a. Evangelization</p> <p>a. Food pantry - starting end of March, we need volunteers to provide hospitality March 28th - Mary K. and Joe stated they would be there. Check calendars and get back to Mary if you will be present on that day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Father suggested that we identify and reach out to parishioners who want to be volunteers for hospitality at the food pantry ● At the last PC meeting, a question was posed: Could food pantry users come on St Vincent de Paul visits? → No, they would need to have safeguard training. <p>b. Debbie, a new parishioner, would like to have a foot care workshop on the opposite Saturdays of food pantry. This could align with St Vincent de Paul's group who would like people to come to the parish vs. making home visits due to physical limitations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ACTION ITEM: Invite Debbie to a PC meeting to present her proposal for the future. <p>c. Signage: We are open Lauren presented an cost-friendly idea of bringing more visibility to when we are having Mass or other events. Toni suggested using the signs from the missionaries. Father Peter Patrick asked for this ACTION ITEM to be given to Parish Engagement as part of addressing how to 'welcome people in' from the <i>outside</i> of the church.</p> <p>b. Processes</p> <p>a. Fellowship Sunday, function of Parish Engagement MAY - first Sunday (to not conflict with Mother's Day), Knights of Columbus JUNE - buildings and grounds ? JULY - parish picnic ?</p>

	<p>NOVEMBER - facing racism (black Catholic month) <i>Further discussion to happen at Parish Engagement meeting later this month.</i></p> <p>b. Parish Profile updating (Census-related).</p> <p>a. Mary K reported that a group of 6 people have been working on this task. We currently don't have complete information that the Archdiocese needs. We plan to complete the profile and there is a process in mind. Announcements requested ahead of time for this to be made by PC at Mass. (Dates are TBD.) Mary K requested that Father also endorse the process.</p> <p>b. Ask parishioners what their interests are - committees need the talents of the parish! Connect people to their gifts. Are we missing something that people want? This can be an opportunity for feedback.</p> <p>c. Jeff mentioned that it's crucial to get the information and be able to explain to the Archdiocese and others exactly what it is our parish does in the community.</p> <p>c. Pancake Breakfast freewill donations Mary K talked to John McGill and there is some concern from his team about having a freewill offering. Father Peter Patrick stated that he feels quite strongly that we need to try this out. We are a welcoming parish - let's see if we can get more people to attend the breakfast! We can evolve the process as needed in the future.</p>
DEFERRED ITEMS	<p>Strategic planning:</p> <p>a. review of input</p> <p>b. write the strengths and weaknesses of one or more goals, strategies to strengthen them if possible. Rank them as easy or difficult.</p>
Pastoral Council liaisons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Other Committee Reports – Please review ahead of time to expedite the meeting. ● Facing Racism: Immigration: preparedness
Other business/comments/events	<p>Cabaret: FISH FRY THE MUSICAL, on March 20th and 21st at 7 pm in the Church Hall at St Sebs</p>

Pulpit Announcements	3/15 Kris 3/22 Kathy 4/5 4/12 Colleen
	Our deliberations tonight helped to further our Parish Mission by how to be more welcoming ...we were able to brainstorm about spiritual development opportunities.
Closing prayer	Prayer of St. Francis

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Bondhus

Next meeting - April 13 at 5:30 pm FKCC