

Parish Council Regular Meeting Minutes 01/26/2026  
(virtual meeting held due to weather)

Meeting called to order by Nick Detore @ 7:03pm

Opening Prayer led by Bill Abers

Absent members: Joe Audino and Joe Zarlenga

Guest: Steve O'Hearn

Review and approve Meeting Minutes from 11/24/2025 PC Meeting – no corrections needed

Administrator's Report:

- 1) Moving towards Lent – the priests are seeing an increase in those participating in the sacrament of Reconciliation. Therefore, additional confession times will be added during Lent on Fridays 12:00-12:30pm (or longer if the need arises and schedules permit) and also simultaneous with Stations of the Cross beginning at 7:00pm.
- 2) The parish is transitioning our banking from Chase to Erie Bank
- 3) St Gabriel School Grizzly Gala will be held on March 14, 2026
- 4) Working with school staff to grow the Junior High Program. Possible ideas: Jr High Lounge, bringing back electives, speakers on careers, etc
- 5) Office Closing due to weather procedure: Mass will NEVER be cancelled. If the school is closed due to snow the office will evaluate if it will open by 10:00am. If deemed to stay closed, any evening programs (bible study, Alpha, AA, etc) can decide for themselves if their respective function will still continue.

Guest Speaker: Steve O'Hearn, prospective Parish Council candidates

There were two people who indicated on the Call to Stewardship card that they would be interested in joining Parish Council. Steve will be speaking with them soon.

There are also three others who have expressed interest. Steve will be speaking with also.

If any current Council members have any names of interest please email Steve and he will contact them.

Steve has emailed Samantha Coffman, Gabe Megrey, and Mara Sabo asking for suggestions for youth representatives.

Liaison Reports

Faith Formation: Jenn Patriarca

VBS registration has begun and going well. Preschool VBS registration is already full. Have secured a Preschool VBS Coordinator, will work with the VBS team.

EDGE Lenten Parent Night is being held February 11, 2026

High School Youth Lenten Retreat is being held March 7, 2026

Parent Night (for any parent) on Stress and Mental Health with Luke Brown is being Held March 1, 2026

Faith Formation cont:

Catholic Day School Week has been pushed back one week, due to weather closings.

Worship and Prayer: Dave Rosenberg

Presented detailed minutes to Council members of their last meeting.

Some highlights: Epiphany chalk was a HUGE success. Will make sure to have more chalk in 2027.

Some blessed chalk is still available in the Parish Office.

Men's Lenten Series titled "Wild at Heart" begins February 17, 2026. Registration has begun. The annual Diocesan CMFNEO 2026 Conference will be held on March 7, 2026.

Jim Miller will begin as coordinator of the Ushers as Joe Venditti is stepping down.

Rayna Bakker is stepping down from as a Liturgy Planner.

Looking for more members to serve on this Committee.

Concern of not having front office open during weekend Masses (see Greeter Weekend Feedback section for more on this topic).

Community Life: Joe Audino

No report

Outreach and Care: Deidra Miner

No report – will send any updates via email

Servant Leadership & Administration Commission: Fr. Joshua

Nothing further

Old Business: Nick Detore

Handicapped signs: Maintenance is looking into this. May need to wait until weather breaks.

PC By-Laws update: Nick will review Nicole and Carl's work and will forward to Fr. Joshua. Once Fr. Joshua reviews, will be brought to Parish Council for approval, hopefully at the February 2026 meeting.

Buzzer System Update: In process of getting that installed. From front door of the Parish Life Center, will ring at the Front Office, Mary von Carlowitz's office, Community Room, and main sacristy. Will then be able to buzz open the door from any of those phones.

Board of Endowment Fund: will circle back to this in the summer

New Business:

None

Announcements:

None

Closing Prayer: Parish Pastoral Council Prayer: by Nick Detore

Adjourned: 8:20PM

## Greeter Weekend Feedback:

- Front Office coverage during weekend Masses:  
Fr Joshua: Would love to have this happen!! If an adult would like to speak to him about how they can help, he would like to speak to them. We can not have a minor, due to VIRTUS requirements.
- Why don't we have a grocery cart in the Gathering Area for donations to the Food Pantry?  
This is a great idea. Fr. Joshua will speak to Alicia about obtaining one.
- Talking/Noise in church before and after Masses:  
Encourage those who want quiet/prayer time to utilize the Chapel.  
Column in Liturgy Corner of bulletin addressing Sacred Spaces
- Some kneelers and chairs in the Chapel need padding and/or upholstery repair  
Fr. Joshua will speak with Maintenance about this.
- Reciting St Michael Prayer at end of Mass:  
Fr. Joshua: Not part of the liturgy, so will not be started. If those who chose can stay after the final song and recite the prayer themselves or move to the chapel to pray.
- Those with crying or restless children to go into Gathering Area:  
Fr Joshua: all children are welcome at Mass.
- St Gabriel angel outside is too small:  
Usually only up around Christmas. If anyone has any other suggestions for other time of the year or other items, please speak to Fr. Joshua.
- Special listing of Formation Candidates in Bulletin, like the Military:  
Will be listed as All Candidates in Formation Programs especially those from our parish: (names listed). Karen will work with Paula to get this to happen.
- Why are we changing the time of Mass on holidays from 9:00am to 9:30am:  
Holiday Masses (not Holy Days) will now be celebrated at 9:30am to match our weekend Mass schedule.
- Why are the Parish Council meeting minutes not in the bulletin?  
We had decided to only include the Greeter Weekend Feedback portion for space.  
Can add the minutes to the website.
- When is Children's Liturgy of the Word celebrated:  
Usually at 9:30 and 11:30 Masses, unless the CLOW minister is not there.
- Why do we sometimes sing and sometimes recite the Lord's Prayer:  
Liturgical season preference
- Would like the priests stay on the altar longer at the end of Mass:  
They need to get to the Gathering Area to greet parishioners as they leave.
- Some do not know why Parish Council is in the Gathering Area:  
Karen to ask Mary von Carlowitz to add a note for the priest to remind everyone that PC is in the Gathering Area (even though this is already announced before Mass begins).