

Parish Council Regular Meeting Minutes 11/24/2025

Meeting called to order by Nick Detore @ 7:04pm

Opening Prayer led by Nicole Brey

Absent members: Nicki Short, Jenn Patriarca, Gabe Megery

Guest: Allison Capella

Review and approve Meeting Minutes from 10/27/2025 PC Meeting – no corrections needed

Administrator's Report:

- 1) All programs, ministries, and church related items are on track.
- 2) Advent and Christmas seasons will see some decoration changes in conjunction with the Art and Environment Committee. The theme for Advent this year is "Your Light Will Come". The theme for the Christmas season is "Your Light Has Come".
- 3) New Prayer/Education Ministry will be holding sessions over the weeks of Advent. There will be morning and evening sessions. The sessions will be led by Fr. Joshua, Fr. Alex, Deacon Bob, and Mary vonCarlowitz with each presenter speaking on different prayer styles.
- 4) At the last staff meeting, SVDP and Pamela Lewis presented best practices for walk-ins and people on our property who may be in need of assistance. The SVDP Ministry has created a tri-folded brochure that gives local agency names and phone numbers. Dialing 211 is also a great source of information for Lake County agencies.

Guest Speaker: Allison Capella, Volunteer & Engagement Manager

Regarding the Strategic Planning for St Gabriel

Spoke with Robert Kuntz, Diocese of Cleveland, to see if he is willing to come to speak with Parish Council. This will help facilitate Townhall Meetings on a larger picture and break down into smaller groups, utilizing staff. This will include the Parish, School, Learning Loft, and PSR. It will help with goal setting based on Bishop Malesic's letter.

We will bring in Robert after the new year at a regular scheduled Parish Council meeting, possible January 26, 2026.

Liaison Reports

Faith Formation: Mara Sabo

All youth programs are going well.

7 youth and adult just returned from the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) held in Indianapolis. They had the opportunity to celebrate Mass and have Eucharistic Adoration with 16,000 others in the Lucas Oil Stadium. They were also able to have a Zoom call with Pope Leo.

Worship and Prayer: Dave Rosenberg

Presented detailed minutes to Council members of their last meeting.

Some highlights: Blue Mass was outstanding again this year and was live streamed.

New Altar Servers were recently trained. Will begin using Middle School aged Altar Servers at funerals, with the permission of the student's teacher and the school. Altar Servers who do not to St Gabriel School can serve at Saturday funerals.

Additional training will need to be completed with Fr. Alex for anyone who want to serve at funerals and/or weddings.

Community Life: Joe Audino

Community Day of Service – Another successful year!! Thank you to all who organized and served. We served at 47 places with 379 volunteers.

Outreach and Care: Deidra Miner

Food Pantry saw an increase of 11% in November 2025 due to the decrease in SNAP benefits. 684 families were served.

Food from the Cleveland Food Bank was free in November and we saved approximately \$300/week by utilizing our DONATED truck for the food pick up, which allowed us to purchase even more food. In December, every person/family coming into the Pantry will receive a \$25.00 Aldi gift card. This is our 3rd year doing this program.

Christmas Scrolls will be distributed on the weekends of November 16th and 23rd 2025, with distribution on December 6, 2025. All gifts need to be returned to the Parish by November 30, 2025

Servant Leadership & Administration Commission: Fr. Joshua

Reminder that we will be having a “Reclaim Black Friday” from shopping and spending money. Use this time for adoration 9:00-3:00pm with sign-ups for 15 minute slots. Encourage families and individuals to sign up for more than one slot.

Old Business: Nick Detore

Handicapped signs: Maintenance request has been submitted. Karen Brenizer will follow up on status.

PC By-Laws update is still in the discussion stages with break-out sessions.

Items noted needing updated: day and time of meetings and administration tasks. New Norms letter from Bishop Malesic dated March 4, 2025: looking into if staff members can be members of Parish Council (see item 8d of letter). Letter given to Karen Brenizer for the records.

Looking at getting document to Parish Council for overview in January of February.

Commissioning Date for Parish Council members will be November 30, 2025 at the 11:30 Mass

New Business:

Campus Security: Jim Wheller

No official report but is working closely with Eric on any issues.

Fr. Joshua:

Currently in process of getting a doorbell-like system through our current phone system which can buzz open front door at Office entrance only. This will buzz the following phones: front office, Mary vonCarlowitz, Sacristy, and Community Room kitchen.

Office entrance door will now be unlocked on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday until 7:45PM.

New lighting has been installed in the parking lot facing the school and playground.

Pavilion is now locked and have cameras installed. Need to complete a "Room Request" and obtain the keys through the office in order to use the Pavilion.

Looking into creating a Board for the Endowment Fund. Alicia Henrikson is spearheading for use towards managing and planning for Parish grounds, etc. Will be in communication with Parish Council and Finance Council.

Announcements:

No meeting in December.

Parish Council Christmas party to be held on January 19, 2026, at 5:00PM at the Rectory. Sign-up

Genius will be created for RSVP and side/dessert sign ups.

Closing Prayer: Parish Pastoral Council Prayer: by all

Adjourned: 7:55PM

Greeter Weekend Feedback:

- A parishioner asked if she could have a tour of the church.
This is usually completed when registration to the parish is completed. Karen Brenizer said she will contact her to schedule a tour. Karen is open to giving tours to anyone who would like one, they just need to contact the Parish Office.
- Where are the 2026 calendars?
The calendars are printed by the supporting funeral home, and no control of St. Gabriel.
They are now in and are in the Parish Office, Gathering Area or the table outside the Parish Office.
- I heard there will be an increase in the Diocesan Assessment?
Per Fr. Joshua: Yes, we are aware of the increase. We are currently assessed 11.5% of our REGULAR weekend collection. This will be changing to 11.5% for the first \$500,000/year of the REGULAR weekend collection and the 16.5% for over \$500,000/year. We were aware of this upcoming change and it was budgeted.
- Some of the links are broken on the Parish website
Due to the change over to the new database some links need to be changed and/or updated.
- Appreciate the Divine Mercy Picture in the Chapel
- Would like more saint statues, maybe from closed parishes
- Would like an evening presentation from Fr. Joshua on his most recent pilgrimage.