

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
11 November 2025

Meeting opened - 6:07pm

- Opening prayer - Father Bala
- In attendance:

Fr. Balachandra Miriyala	Present	Mike Keohane (27)	Present
Todd Giefer, President (26)	Present	Laura Mack (27)	Present
Van Bert, Vice President (27)	Absent	Jon Smrtic (26)	Present
Stephanie Pierce, Secretary (26)	Present	Jeannine Edmonds, Finance Council	Absent
John Beshenich (28)	Present	Carolyn Klemp, Business Manager	Present
Marty Brown (26)	Present	Joan Leonard, Dir of Liturgical Music	Present
Glenn Dreiling (28)	Absent	Carrie Mathews, PLC	Present
Julie Foresee (28)	Present	McKinzie Murley, Director RE/Youth	Present
Katie Frandsen (27)	Absent	Kelsie Gartner	Present
Gary Jones (28)	Present		

1. Review and approval of previous meeting's minutes - no objections, approved.
2. Old business:
 - a. Picture and council members biographies - a picture of the council members is needed for the website; group photo was taken. A reminder to submit your biography for the website if you haven't already.
 - b. Xavier School Board:
 - McKinzie and Glenn are coordinating dates for youth group use of the parish bus; two designated drivers still need to complete training.
 - Mike Keohane attended the school board meeting. Plans are underway for a "Xavier Night," meetings with Father, and school-family participation in one weekend of Masses each fall and spring.
 - Parish donations to Xavier are on track. Efforts continue to increase parish awareness that supporting Xavier is part of our mission. Xavier's marketing director provides bulletin content.
 - The parish increased its annual support by \$5,000 last year and remains on schedule. Annual reports from Xavier, previously shared with the parish, have not yet been received. Updated meeting minutes and financial reports are needed.
 - Xavier's board meets on the last Monday of each month, 4:30pm.
 - c. Ministry Fair:

- The purpose of the ministry fair is to recruit **new** volunteers; this may need to be clarified in future events. Ministry turnout for table participation was good, though Xavier did not attend.
 - The next ministry fair will be held next fall. Ministry training is scheduled for **January 31st**, and a parishioner suggested offering lunch during the training.
 - Kelcey suggested coordinating the ministry fair with a parish fall festival/picnic.
 - There is a significant need for altar servers and for filling all ministry roles at the **5pm Mass**, which currently draws only about 113 attendees. Personal invitations will be key to increasing volunteers.
 - The Altar Society will host a breakfast on **Saturday, December 6th at 10am**.
- d. Building Committee/Capital Campaign:
- Have received 45 responses for \$324,000 in total pledges.
 - We have to have 50% in hand, and 100% pledged to start construction.
- e. CPR Training:
- Next CPR training is November 15th, 8:30am and the class is full.
 - The parish received a grant from the archdiocese to pay for 1 of the 2 trainings.
 - The parish plans to offer this every few years.
3. Organization Requests/Updates/Reports:
- a. Bala Bash:
- Signups for Bala Bash are in the bulletin, asking people to volunteer and donate.
 - Ticket sales start in January on the 10/11th. There will be 170 tickets available, estimating around \$40-\$60/ticket. Waiting on information on food cost before finalizing ticket prices.
 - We will have raffle baskets but not a live auction in the same sense as last year.
 - Right now we're saying the funds will go towards the General Needs of the Parish; waiting to see how offertory changes with the Capital Campaign going on.
- b. Liturgical Committee:
- The next meeting 27 Jan 2026, will be discussing youth mass.
 - Lots of needs coming up with the holiday season.
 - Mike Keohane mentioned celebrating Catholic veterans at the cemeteries each year, discussion ensued regarding an appropriate day to honor Catholic veterans.
- c. Finance Committee:
- monthly financials were sent out, any questions can be directed to Carolyn.
- d. Religious Education
- McKinzie introduced Kelcey as our new Youth Minister. She has been helping primarily with the 6th-12th grades youth groups thus far.
 - Annual Virtus lesson for K-12th is on the 23rd of November.



- There will be a break from in-person Faith Formation for December; rejourning in January.
- More fellowship events coming up in December for the teens.

4. Calendar Forecast:

- a. The calendar is always available on the website.
 - Thanksgiving Day mass is the 27th at 9am
 - Holy Day of Obligation on Monday, December 8th (Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary). Masses at 8:30am and 6:30pm. Signups to serve for the Holy Days of Obligation are available via QR code in the bulletin.
 - There will be a blessing of the Nativities on the 14th of December.
 - Communal penance service on the 14th of December.
 - Christmas Choir/Pageant practice on December 22nd, 23rd.

5. New Business:

- a. Upcoming events/issues:
 - 21 February, Men Under Construction at Church of the Ascension Church, full day affair including confession and mass with the archbishop.
 - Presbyteral Council / Archdiocese Synod: Jeannine and Todd are teamed to do this group; it is a new initiative of the Archbishop. First meeting is in February; there will be one per quarter. Each parish is sending at least 2 (one being a finance council chair, one pastoral council chair), to this lay deanery group; we can also send members of the youth council, Knights, and OCIA. It is live zoomed from the Archbishop. All parishes from the diocese join in. February 3rd, 2026; August 25th, 2026, November 10, 2026, 6:30-8pm.

6. Next Meeting: 9 December 2025

Meeting closed at 7:12pm