

HOLY CROSS PARISH

A welcoming, vibrant community committed to growing in and sharing the love of Jesus

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Date: August 31, 2025

Attendance: Matthew Tabone, Kerry L Mess, Rich Meyers, Dana Mochoviak, Marguerite Webster

Open with Prayer for Pope Leo XIII:

All: We pray that our new shepherd, Pope Leo XIV, be blessed with the wisdom and compassion needed to guide the Church. May he, in communion with his fellow bishops, serve you and your people with dedication and joy, deep compassion, and profound faith, hope, and charity so that the light of the Risen Christ will continue to dispel the darkness of this world.

Reader: As in the church's early years, so also today, the mission given by Jesus to Peter continues in the church. As the bishops succeed the apostles to carry on the apostolic mission that Jesus gave to his church, the bishop of Rome succeeds Peter to continue the specific ministry Jesus assigned to Peter among the apostles... The successor to Peter is the church's bridge builder, serving to establish and protect the unity of the church for which Jesus prayed. He is truly the rock on which the church is built, the one who strengthens his brother bishops, and the universal shepherd.

All: Saint Peter, to whom were given the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, pray for us. Amen.

I. Pretest (from *Making Parish Councils Pastoral*)

Fill in either T for true or F for false.

- A. _____ The pastoral council contributes to the apostolate of the pastor, not the laity.
- B. _____ The main work of the pastoral council is to coordinate parish ministries.
- C. _____ *Pastoral* refers to a process apart from parliamentary procedure, to a prayerful style, and to content other than parish administration.
- D. _____ Pastors may not consult their councils about faith, orthodoxy, moral principles, or laws of the Universal Church.
- E. _____ Councillors must be elected by means of a secret ballot.
- F. _____ Councils are representative in that they must reflect the demographic profile of the parish population.
- G. _____ Canon law does not require each parish to have a pastoral plan.
- H. _____ Councils guarantee the right of laypeople to bring matters to the attention of pastors.
- I. _____ Pastors consider their councillors as consultants rather than as a board of directors or governing commission.
- J. _____ On its own, the parish pastoral council never makes policy for other ministries.

II. Council

- A. Last meeting: Approval of minutes (Jun 29)
- B. Members
 - 1. By-Laws
 - 2. Representation and Terms
 - 3. Recruitment

III. Activities and Events

A. Parish Activities: What do people want? **Please come with suggestions!**

- 1. Front Sign: Liturgy of the Word?
Matthew can come; not sure how many people will come. Won't hurt.
Might need more letters. Need to figure out standard size.
- 2. Ecumenical (Kerry's been up to/communicated with)
 - a. calendar: Services? (Fr. Photie)
Got an email from him about service calendar. Explained it was for events but could include service times.
Suggested us visiting on a Sunday Fr. Chris isn't here; perhaps Fr. Photie's congregation could visit us on a Sunday.
 - b. Mtr. Tracy: Christian Response to Political Polarization?
Braver Angels has put out a guide for discussion groups. Do we want to be involved?
- 3. Planning – Events: Autumn, Advent?
 - a. First Sunday of Advent: November 30 – Advent Fair
making wreaths
Craft Fair
Advertising: put in bulletin every couple weeks as a reminder, in PennySaver, on Firehouse, at Gatehouse
 - b. Christmas Lights @ fairgrounds – a couple weeks before Christmas
Would like Christian representation (no churches last year)
Put in bulletin for involvement – meet next Council meeting

B. Follow up

- 1. Morris Yard Sale Day: Only broke even; not many people present (others commented on this); end of road location (last stop); rotary did a last-minute chicken sale; 40 breakfast and lunch would have been OK. Worth it?
- 2. Finding a baptismal font – crack in it, moved outside, Rich thinks he and Diane could fix it OR put a glass bowl in it (remove/grind down the dividers) to fit.
Rich will try to take a look at it this week.
- 3. Didn't make the diocesan appeal (by around \$200 or less) because a couple checks came in late despite date in appeal time; would have made it but diocese said late payments need to go toward next year; we had to write a check to cover difference – new amount for this year ~\$6,200

C. New Business

- 1. Water heater blew; bought new one – one for one swap for what's in there
- 2. Corner puddle in parish hall during rain; downspout is really close
Need to divert water at end of drop away from building – Matthew will take care of
Block has cracked on front porch – Rich will take look at it this week

3. SFCU account – on to do list; we have all papers

D. Upcoming – Nothing come of remade for formation; haven't had a parish update from diocese

Next meeting: Sunday, October 12 after mass (coffee hour)