

Cathedral of Saint Michael the Archangel  
Pastoral Council Meeting  
RECTORY  
Monday, September 8, 2025 at 6pm

**[ACCEPTED]**  
**Minutes of the Meeting**

**Present:** Marion Johnson; Mary Ann Arnold; Carlos Marrero; Mary Somers;  
Nachaly Moreira; Timothy Pepler; Kenneth Welch

**Guests:** John Korona; Michael Jones

**Ex-Officio:** Very Reverend Gary M. Dailey; Deacon Angel Pérez; Deacon Jose Rivera;  
Dolly Garzon; Lynn Dubreuil; Wanda Castellano

**Absent:** Natalia Calderon; Virginia Padilla; Fr. Yerick Mendez; Fr. Sinh Trinh;

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**Call to Order / Opening Prayer**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. with a prayer led by Fr. Dailey.

**Review of Minutes of May 12, 2025**

The members reviewed the minutes. Mary Ann Arnold moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mary Somers. Unanimous approval.

**Fiscal Year 2026**

John Korona and Michael Jones, members of the Parish Finance Council were present. John provided a financial report that included income and loss, reporting a loss of \$33,000.00. John addressed the parish's operating budget. The stock market is doing well. Springfield's economy is not great, and expenses have increased. The weekly collection is down 15%. We need to increase the number of people in the pews. Hopefully new housing being developed around the Cathedral will help. Property and Liability insurance has increased from last year. The budget for this year is almost balanced. Michael Jones is the new chair of the finance council.

**Cathedral Organ**

The organ refurbishing has begun. The wiring will be changed to ensure safety. We have two (2) consoles. They are being built just exclusively for the Cathedral. All mechanical pieces of the organ will be replaced. Austin Organ maintains the instrument and are familiar with it. Other repairs and priorities to the project will include re-voicing to the pipe work and replacing things that are broken or expecting to break from normal wear and tear. It is a \$400,000.00 expense that will be split in thirds; Beacon of Faith, Parish Savings, and the Diocese. The organ will celebrate its 100 year anniversary in 2029. The Organ Restoration Committee is searching for grants.

**New Members Introductions**

The Pastoral Council added four (4) new members: Mary Ann Arnold, Nachaly Moreira, Timothy Pepler, and Mary Somers. All members had an opportunity to introduce themselves. The members whose terms ended are Sharon Harris, Dorinda Poitier, and Damaris Roig.

## **Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson**

This agenda item was tabled until the next meeting.

## **Review of Cathedral Activities/Liturgies**

- Corpus Christi Procession took place after the 11:45 a.m. Mass on Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Bishop Byrne was pleased with it.
- 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> – The Blue Mass. All first responders are invited to attend dressed in uniform.
- 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> – A Mass in honor of the Knights of Columbus.
- 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> – The Red Mass – St. Thomas More Society.

## **Religious Education**

There are 60 students enrolled. There are thirteen (13) students enrolled in the Confirmation class six (6) of whom are preparing to receive the sacrament on Pentecost Sunday 2026.

The numbers resemble last year's enrollment numbers. Some students take a 2 - 3 year break after First Communion.

## **Latino Ministry**

The RCIA class in Spanish started with three (3) students; two (2) preparing for baptism.

## **OCIA**

There is at least one (1) person preparing to be baptized, possibly with his two children and his wife.

## **St. Peter Claver and Black Catholic Apostolate**

The Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver celebrated their anniversary on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

The members turned-out in white attire at the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

## **Purple Mass**

The Annual Purple Mass will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> in an effort to make it available to parishioners from other parishes in our diocese.

## **Take and Eat Ministry**

This ministry is going well. There are 60 homebound persons being served on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month. In the past, we have contacted the Greater Springfield Senior Services to recruit.

## **Safety & Security Committee**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. There is a training session for October through the Office of Safe Environment and Victim Assistance. If there is an incident, call the ambulance before calling the police. The police will accompany the ambulance. The police will not show up before the ambulance

## **Old Business**

## **Cathedral Apparel**

This is not a priority discussion item, but we will still pursue it.

## **Parish Food Pantry**

The parish food pantry moved from the 2nd floor to the room next to the Bishop Marshall Center. The closet was cleaned and shelves were purchased for the food, and continue to build up the food pantry.

### **Census**

We are still working on it. There have been over 150 responses. A third request will go out.

### **Parish Picnic**

Fr. Dailey was pleased with the great response. The committee met after the picnic to talk about how things could improve. The picnic will be an annual event for the parish to be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of August. The picnic was not met as a fundraiser, but it made \$500.00. We would like to create more committees: cleaning, entertainment, and food.

### **New Business**

#### **Rug Cleaning**

All the rugs were cleaned, disinfected and a sealant. There was an issue of mold in the crypt. The crypt area has been repainted.

#### **Sacristy flooring**

A donor offered to cover this expense. The project will be completed within two months. It should be presentable for our visiting priests and bishops and especially for special liturgies.

#### **St. Michael's Feast**

St. Michael's Feast Day is on Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. There will be Adoration and a bilingual Mass at 7:00 p.m. to celebrate the Feast.

#### **Dedication of the Church**

The 159th Anniversary of the Consecration of the Church will be celebrated at the 12:10 p.m. Mass on Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> with Bishop Byrne,

#### **St. Augustine Bible Reflection**

Timothy Pepler will present a study on the Confessions of St. Augustine on Thursdays starting on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September.

#### **Corpus Christi Procession**

We would like to combine all of the morning Masses into one Mass at 10:00 a.m. Then, have a procession. All members of the Pastoral Council are in favor.

#### **Catholic Charismatic Renewal Group (Spanish)**

Nachaly Moreira is the new leader person for the parish. She said everyone is welcomed to be a part of this group. Nachaly is dedicated to bring new servants of God to this ministry.

#### **Knights of the Altar Cathedral**

The Knights of the Altar are young men between the ages of 18 and 30. Most often they are called to serve at Masses with Bishop Byrne. Religious Ed may encourage new altar servers. We will look at getting young servers from our Religious Education Program.

#### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 6 at 6:00 p.m. in the Cathedral rectory

#### **Adjournment / Closing Prayer**

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m. with a closing prayer.