



Sarnia Bluewater
Roman Catholic
Family of Parishes

*Serving the Parishes of Our Lady of Mercy,
Queen of Peace, Sacred Heart, St. Benedict,
St. Joseph, St. Michael, St. Thomas d'Aquin*

Welcoming Communities, Encountering Christ, Sharing Faith, Caring for All

**SARNIA BLUEWATER ROMAN CATHOLIC FAMILY of PARISHES
PASTORAL COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**June 10, 2025
7:30pm
Our Lady of Mercy**

Sarnia Bluewater Roman Catholic Family of Parishes Pastoral Council Mandate:

The Pastoral Parish Council of the Sarnia Bluewater Roman Catholic Family of Parishes helps to ensure that the Mission and Vision of the Family of Parishes and the mission (Pastoral Plan) of the Diocese of London are ardently pursued. It is also imperative that the Parish Pastoral Council act in an advisory capacity to the Pastor and the Cor Leadership Team and as a source of communication for the Family of Parishes.

To do so, it will be important for the Pastoral Council to focus on the mission of the Diocese of London and its Pastoral Plan with the key role of gathering information from parishioners and sharing information with the family of parishes for the common good of the family.

Meeting called by: Marc Hammond

Chaired: Marc Hammond

Note taker: Annie Ferrera

Attendees:

Fr. Brian Jane (FoP), Marc Hammond (SM), Helen Ross (SM), Regina Croskery (SB), Leo Mayer (SB), Doris Leblanc (STA-Fr.), Raymundo Mendez (STA-Sp.), Linda Iacovella (SH), Deacon David Kraemer (FoP), Leonia Downie (FoP), Jenn Stewart (FoP), Annie Ferrera (FoP), Louis Guimond (FoP), John Spinozzi (SJ), Joanna Kazanecki (QP-Pol.) Diane Rose (QP-Eng.)

Regrets: Rev. Joseph Oghenejabor, Rev. Michael Woods (FoP), Fr. Jan Burczyk (FoP), Fr. Edward Okorie (FoP), Alyssa Minten (FoP), John Roman (SH), Frank Vautour (STA- Eng.)

Guests:

MINUTES

1. Call to Order & Welcome:

2. Opening Prayer: Fr. Brian opened the meeting with Our Father and the Sunday Gospel. Members shared their thoughts of this Gospel.

3. Review of Agenda: PPC formation added to agenda

4. Acceptance of Minutes: April 8, 2025, minutes: accepted

5. Pastor's Report: Fr. Brian Jane

- Men's and women's retreats were well attended; 23 women and 14 men participated. New teams for Fall retreats have been put in place.
- The Marian Feast was successful. The event included Mass, procession and reception. The Mass was livestreamed and available on YouTube.

6. Updates:

Lay Ecclesial Ministry: Leonia Downie/Jenn Stewart

- 20 RCIA candidates were received at Easter. 4 people have registered for the RCIA program in 2026. Leonia is looking at introducing a special summer Alpha session for them.
- Sacraments are now all complete. Bishop Fabrro celebrated Confirmation at St. Michael to a standing room only church.
- Muskoka Woods experience was a huge success. Jenn has received many letters and emails from parents who were very pleased that their children had the opportunity to participate. A date has been reserved for next year. Congratulations to Jenn on the success of this endeavour.

Liturgy: Leonia

- Leonia will be meeting with music directors to plan for Jubilee celebrations.

Business Administration: Louis Guimond

- The Diocese is rolling out a new accounting software. Our FoP has been asked to roll out the program. Finance staff is getting used to the new software. Transferring the data is a very slow process.
- We will also be looking at how to computerize Mass intentions.
- We are also exploring a new method of computing through email with Flocknote. This program is user friendly and gives us more advantages for communication.
- A premise security policy has been rolled out with site securing checklists for each site.
- The Use of Facilities guidelines has been updated.
- The parish office will be closed on June 19th for administrative professional development day at the Diocese.

Deacon Report: Deacon Dave Kraemer

- No report

Social Justice: Annie Ferrera

- Migrant Workers Ministry. The Spanish masses & dinners are going well. We have lots of dedicated volunteers. At the June 8th event workers received a presentation from a government funded group, TNO (The Neighborhood Organization) - Occupational Health for Ontario Workers (OHCOW). The presentation was on musculoskeletal disorders in the workplace. Next Mass is July 13th at 5 p.m.
- Homelessness & Affordable Housing Ministry - HAH Ministry meets this Thursday at 7 p.m. @ St. Ben's. Jim Curran will expand on recent developments, ie., Indwell supportive housing. Lambton County donated the land on George St. (near EMS). Wrap-around support will be provided by local service agencies and Lambton County homeless outreach staff. Jim will also share updates on River City Vineyard and Nightlight.
- Truth & Reconciliation. I would appreciate feedback on Red Dress & Moose Hide campaigns in May. Have all the red dressed and leftover moose hides been returned? Next event will be Orange Shirt Day in September. Do we have all the shirts returned for this event? I can purchase more if needed.
- Theresa vanKoeverden had to cancel her exposure trip to Pikangikum due to the forest fires that are 60 Km away from Pik. The air quality is poor; therefore, the schools are closed, and people are staying indoors. She and Colleen would not have been able to do the programming they planned for this visit. They have rescheduled to the end of October instead. School will be operational, and Nick will have returned to Pik from being away all summer.

Communication Team: Annie Ferrera/Alyssa Minten

- Social media: Alyssa is posting testimonials on News from the Family Pews.

Social Team: Annie Ferrera

- The Social Team is working on the Jubilee event.
- Alyssa will be recording the French and Arabic Rosary for YouTube.

7. Old Business:

- Review of Pastoral Goals: Goals 2 and 3 will be reviewed in the Fall

8. New Business:

- Priest Moves: Father Joseph and Father Edward will be leaving our Family of Parishes in July. Both have been assigned as Associate Pastors in other Families. Father Micheal has been appointed an associate pastor for our Family of Parishes, and we are expecting Father Andrew Ankamah to join us also as an associate pastor.

9. Open Forum:

10. Closing Prayer: Deacon Dave closed the meeting with prayer.

11. Next Meeting: to be announced