

Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Notes
Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Attending: Fr. Chen, Monica LaFond, Tom Lucci, Kate Mason, Julie Morrison, Agustin Sanchez, Mary Tracey-Walsh.

Vice Chair - Julie Morrison
Notes - Kate Mason
Refreshments - Agustin Sanchez
Opening Prayer - Mary Tracey-Walsh
Closing Prayer - Mary Tracey-Walsh

April Notes

Monica will add the people attending the April PPC meeting to the notes. No other changes.

Recap of recent parish events - what went well and what can be improved

Advent Evening Prayer on December 5 and 12 Holy Week and Easter

- Lent and Holy Week programs and Masses were well-organized and went attended.
- The 8:45am Easter Mass was overflowing. For next year, there is a consideration to have two Masses at both the 8:45am and the 11am Mass.
- Both the 11am Masses were well-attended. Several attendees at O'Connell Hall said the atmosphere created was reverent and warm with the music and service. However the offertory basket collection was a little confusing. Something to clarify for next year at all the Easter Services. Fr. Chen is checking to see if a special collection can be added at the Holy Thursday service.

The Platters Concert - April 26, 2025

- The concert was great fun for all attendees. The Platters will be back for the Epiphany in 2026. If there is another concert (not planned), a suggestion is to have the list of pre-paid ticket holders listed alphabetically by *last name*. This year, it was by the first name and caused confusion.
- Net concert proceeds are still being determined due to the billing cycle from Sharon School system for the use of the Middle School.

New Business

Trivia Night, Saturday, May 17 in O'Connell Hall - Monica LaFond for Lynn Jacobs

- Trivia Night planning is coming along well. As of this PPC meeting, there are 13 Silent Auction baskets; 4 sponsors and 11-12 teams along with several miscellaneous gift cards. Teams are still signing up and there may be another sponsor. The planning team still needs card tables.
- Lynn will be advertising that the baskets will be on view for bidding starting at 3pm on May 17. She will also invite parishioners to come after Mass for social time before Trivia Night.

Blessing of Graduates, Saturday, May 31 at the 4:30pm Mass - Monica LaFond/Fr. John

There will be a special blessing for all graduating seniors at the 4:30pm Mass on May 31.

Memorial Mass Deacon Mike Iwanowicz, Sunday, June 1, 11am-2pm— Monica LaFond

There will be a special 5 year Memorial Mass for Deacon Mike who died during Covid. We were not able to, as a community, honor him. The Mass is at 11 am followed by lunch in O'Connell Hall. Lynn has contacted the family. Monica is seeking people who knew Deacon Mike well to share their stories.

Pentecost is the Weekend of June 7-8 - It is also the start of the Summer Mass schedule

Monica will invite parishioners to read in their native language during weekend Masses except for 7:30 am on Sunday.

Summer Mass Schedule begins June 7-8

Masses are 4:30pm on Saturdays & 7:30am & 10:30am on Sundays

Staffing in June

In mid June, Monica, Fr. Chen and several parishioners will be going to Spain on the Ignatian Way pilgrimage. Fr. Chen will travel to China after the pilgrimage. Fr. Spicer has been helpful in arranging priests to cover the weekend and daily Masses.

Summer Activities

The summer picnic and the Mass at the Lake may be combined this year. Lynn is looking into what is permissible with the town. Mass at the Lake is planned close to the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows which is September 15.

Other Business

Update on Music Director Search:

The Music Director search resulted in three top candidates who each played one weekend over the past month or so. The search committee will meet with Fr. Chen on Thursday, May 8, to make their recommendation. After that, a formal offer will be made.

Update on search for Coordinator of Faith Formation

Tzipora will be leaving at the end of May but will be available for the June Lunch Brigade. There is a parishioner interested in the position and in discussion with Monica. The position has been advertised in the bulletin and other places.

Commission/Council Reports

Parish Finance Council - Julie Morrison

- Julie said a draft of the parish budget for 2026 is being reviewed for completion by June 30, 2025, the fiscal year end. The good news is that the parish is in a better position than in 2025.
- FY 2026 might be \$16K off which is an improvement from FY25. This estimate includes a \$130K Grand Annual 2026 goal.
- Considerations for next year's budget include:
 - The AC in the church needs to be replaced (\$15K)
 - Staff Health Insurance is going up 13%
 - New Faith Formation Coordinator position will be 30 hours with benefits option
- The Platters Concert net revenue is still being determined due to billing from the school system.
- The Finance commission will add a note into the bulletin over the summer to remind parishioners that when they go on vacation, the church still remains and to continue to give.

Christian Service Opportunities Commission (CSOC) - Kate Mason

The next CSOC meeting is Tuesday, May 13 via Zoom. The current collection is Spring Cleaning Supplies for the Food Pantry through May 20. In June, we usually collect Family Care Kits for Evelyn House. It will be discussed at the next CSOC meeting.

Faith Formation Commission

The Faith Formation has not met since the Lenten activities.

Liturgy Commission - Monica LaFond

The Liturgy Commission has not met since the Easter celebration.

Radical Hospitality Commission - Kate Mason, Silvia Dudziak, Monica LaFond

The next Radical Hospitality Meetings may meet May 27 based on committee availability.

Youth Commission (YC) - Monica LaFond

May 18 - Taco Party.

Closing prayer offered by Mary Tracey-Walsh

Next Meeting: August 6, Bullock Center