



**St. Peter Catholic Church**  
**Pastoral Council**  
**Minutes of the September 16, 2025 Meeting**  
**Via Hybrid (Live & Zoom)**

The Pastoral Council (the Council) of St. Peter Catholic Church (the Parish) held a virtual and live meeting on September 16, 2025 using Google Zoom as well as Council members meeting at our offices at St. Benedict Hall.

**Pastoral Council members:** Fr. Tim Stephens (**Pastor**), Michelle Morris (**Chair**), Jody Dawson (**Vice Chair**), Mary Schilli, (**Immediate Past Chair**), Moe Cieri (**Secretary**), Allain Andry, Anne Bowen, Vanessa Clark, David Dorsch, Audrey Ellis, Debbie Johnson, Sarah Rings Morris, Jeremy Needham, Mary Lauren Shea, Carl Zaccardelli.

**Ex-Officio Participants:** Fr. Mark Scalese, Deacon Jim Bozik, Deacon Clarke Cochran, Jean Niedert, Michele Mangan (**Finance Council Representative**).

**(Names in bold were in attendance)**

**Call to Order**

Michelle Morris chaired the meeting and called to order at 5:35PM.

**Opening Prayer**

Michelle Morris led the opening prayer.

**Minutes of the August 19, 2025 Pastoral Council meeting**

The August 19, 2025 minutes were reviewed. Upon motion and duly seconded, the minutes of the August 19, 2025 meeting were approved.

**Finance Council update (Michele Mangan)**

**Review of the June and July 2025 Financial Dashboard:**

- YE Revenue was \$2.452mm, \$199.2K favorable to budget. This excess was primarily made up from Offertory Collection, Other Income, Other Offerings, and the DSA overpayment (donations from St. Peter for DSA more than St. Peter's assessment).
- Operating Surplus was \$356K favorable to budget.
- YE Expenses were \$157K favorable to budget due to timing of staff salaries, Ministry & Liturgy, and Religious Formation (an expense budgeted but not incurred).
- Capital campaign as of June had \$2.32 million of costs. To date the parish has received \$2.1 million in pledges and one-time donations and \$700k of uncollected pledges. Once all pledges are collected, the church will have a healthy reserve to use for capital expenditures.
- We had 10.5 months of operating reserve.
- Through June, we were over 100% of the DSA goal/assessment with 334 households contributing.

- July Operating Revenue was unfavorable by \$25.8K, mostly due to Offertory collection being off by \$17K. This typically fluctuates based on the number of Sunday collections during the month.
- July Operating Expenses were favorable by \$27K mostly due to Facilities, Ministry/Liturgy, and General/Administrative expenses being lower than budget.
- Priest Retirement Assessment came in at \$61.2K, which is roughly 3% of our Offertory collection.

## **DMI Update**

A working committee was formed to review the parish's results. Allain Andry is leading the committee with membership including Jody Dawson, Vanessa Clarke, Debbie Johnson, and Audrey Ellis. Allain & Jody provided a draft/summary of their initial meeting. Since there was a lot of information/data that came from the survey, they were tasked to narrow the focus to three areas which align with St. Peter's focus and apostolic preferences. The group is recommending we focus on 1) Spirituality, 2) Parish Connectedness, 3) Engagement. The next steps would be to set up goals that are actionable, measurable, and what strategies to employ. The 3 areas resonated with the Pastoral Council members. The following are additional discussion points that were expressed by the council:

- We had a great response rate of over 900 parishioners.
- How should we communicate with our younger parishioners? Text? Social Media?
- We should adopt a synodality mode by reaching out to specific demographic groups.
- How should we connect with groups such as the 20s/30s, Sages, young families, etc.
- It is hard to determine what the preponderance of our younger parishioners is since the response rate was relatively low.
- Also need to think about how we should communicate to the parish at large regarding the DMI results and the forward-looking plan.
- Should we think about a direct survey on how to connect with these targeted groups since they don't always come to mass every Sunday.
- Determine how to "capture" feedback from parishioners under 40 years of age who attend a weekend service (at the service).

## **General Updates and Group Discussion**

### **Introduction: Fr. Mark Scalese**

Fr. Mark was introduced and provided the Pastoral Council with his background.

### **Faith in Action**

Vanessa stated the Faith in Action group would be attending the Ministry Fair and would help out with name tags.

## **Day of Caring**

Moe reported that St. Peter will host our annual Day of Caring initiative on October 25th. Anne Bowen and Mary Lauren Shea will help co-chair the event. We have secured the following community groups:

- Crisis Assistance Ministry (Sorting clothing and helping with the Free Store).
- Alexander Youth Network (helping with a Fall Festival).
- Roof Above: parish families making PB&J sandwiches.
- Samaritan's Feet (Sorting shoes).
- Trees Charlotte (Planting trees).

Hold the date was communicated on September 7. Sign-ups begin on September 28. Meeting with Jean Niedert to set up the process on how to participate in the Day of Caring events.

Anne Bowen Presented a new initiative for 2026. Instead of hosting one day of caring during the year, we are recommending one day of caring each month. The following is a summary of this service initiative:

### **Implementation:**

- Initiate one Day of Caring per month.
- Recruit a Host or Host Commission.
- Prior to service day, host will coordinate with community partner re scheduling, inviting parishioners to serve (signups), identifying logistics, safety concerns, age limits, waivers, etc.
- On the day of service, host will serve as site coordinator, assist with communications, instructions, and take photos.
- After the service, the host will provide feedback, photos, and a brief summary of the day.

### **Timeline:**

Introduction: To follow the October 25, 2025 Day of Caring

Launch: February/March 2026

**Initial Community Partners (possibly 2x/year each):** Nourish Up, Crisis Assistance, Roof Above, Alexander Youth Network, Trees Charlotte, Habitat for Humanity, Samaritan's Feet, and the Salvation Army.

## **Nursery Update – Sarah & FR. Tim**

Sarah mentioned that we had 4 children for our soft launch at the beginning of September. We are very excited about the two very qualified candidates we hired to run the nursery for St. Peter.

## **OCIA**

Allain provided the Pastoral Council with an update. We have a total of 20 participants (including two high school participants). There are 7 catechumens and 13 Candidates. Allain and Doneta are still working on recruiting sponsors.

## **Parishioner Feedback**

A Pastoral Council member was asked by a parishioner if St. Peter has a group like the 20s/30s ministry for older singles who is looking to connect with parishioner his own age. He just thought of bringing it up at the meeting.

## **Commissions & Council updates**

There was no additional feedback from ministry leads while Michelle encouraged all to review their summaries which are loaded on our Google drive.

## **Pastor's Comments (Father Tim)**

Upon reflecting on the DMI conversations during the meeting, Fr. Tim reiterated the need to choose proactively what it is we can do as a parish. The church cannot be all things to all people. We should focus on priorities and our strengths, especially around our Universal Apostolic Preferences. We do want to be a lot of things to the people who are here and engaged. We need to reflect and discern what it is that holds us together as a parish. In order to get results, we need to try different things which may feel disruptive because it is different than what they are used to. An outstanding question that parishioners might need to discern is if St. Peter were to close (no longer a Jesuit parish), would you go to another parish or continue attending a non-Jesuit St. Peter at the same location?

Fr. Tim thanked the DMI committee members for their preliminary work.

Several consolations were shared by members.

Mary Schilli led our closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Moe Cieri  
Secretary