



**St. Peter Catholic Church
Pastoral Council
Minutes of the June 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 June 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**), Mary Schilli (**Chair**), Michelle Morris (**Vice Chair**), Keith Butler, (**Immediate Past Chair**), Moe Cieri (**Secretary**), Jeremy Needham, Allain Andry, Helen Katz, David Dorsch, Ali Miele, Anne Bowen, Sarah Rings Morris, Mary Lauren Shea, Vanessa Clark

Ex-Officio Participants: Deacon Jim Bozik, Deacon Clarke Cochran, Michele Mangan (**Finance Council Representative**), Jody Dawson (2025-2026 Vice Chair), Debbie Johnson (incoming Parish Life Commission lead)

(Names in bold were in attendance)

Call to Order

Mary chaired the meeting and called to order at 5:30PM.

Opening Prayer

Mary led the opening prayer.

Minutes of the May 12, 2025 Pastoral Council meeting

The May 12, 2025 minutes were reviewed. Upon motion and duly seconded, the minutes of the May 12, 2025 meeting were approved.

Finance Council update (Michele Mangan)

Review of the April 2025 Financial Dashboard:

- Total operating revenue was unfavorable by \$25.1K for the month due to staffing expenses and Faith Formation expenses. We were favorable by \$111K YTD.
- Operating expenses were slightly favorable by \$10K for the month and favorable by \$120.7K for the year.
- Operating surplus is slightly unfavorable by \$15K for the month however favorable \$231.7K for the year.
- Through May, we were over 100% of the DSA goal/assessment with 314 households contributing.
- Finance Committee voted to transfer \$300K from the Operating Accounts Payables Budget to Savings.
- Michele mentioned we had 12.4 months of operating reserve before the transfer of funds to the Savings Account.

- Regarding the Repairs and Renovation project: Michele reported all payables/expenses have been paid. We are using current funds to pay for other improvements such as scaffolding/gutter remediation.

General Updates and Group Discussion

• Faith in Action

Deacon Clarke introduced Vanessa Clark, one of the leaders in the newly formed ministry. Vanessa will serve on the Pastoral Council Pastoral Council as the liaison from the Faith in Action ministry.

• Day of Caring

Moe reported that St. Peter will host our annual Day of Caring initiative on one of the following dates: October 11, 18, or 25. Anne Bowen and Mary Lauren Shea will help co-chair the event. We will likely reach out to the community groups we've partnered with in the past and include making sandwiches for Roof Above.

Moe discussed an idea that came from the pastoral council executive committee where St. Peter would consider moving away from a once-a-year event to possibly a monthly event beginning some time in 2026. The thought would be to partner with a different community organization each month who are aligned with our Apostolic Preferences. Anne and Mary Lauren will assist with the ideation process.

• Nursery Update – Sarah

Sarah updated the Pastoral Council on the work she and the Nursery team have completed to date.

- Sarah spoke with the Diocese regarding our nursery plans. Their guidance was clear and straightforward: if we follow the diocesan risk and insurance guidelines, they would be fine with St. Peter maintaining a nursery.
- Since this nursery would be considered drop-in care, adherence to many of the state mandated regulations would not apply.
- One of the requirements is to have at least one paid staff member (two would be ideal if we reached a capacity of 20 children).
- We would also like to have at least one adult server as well.
- Targeting the Sunday 9AM mass service to begin with and use of the Ignatian House for the nursery.
- The Nursery team's initial thoughts would be there would be 10-12 children on a first come/first serve basis.
- Our communication with parishioners would state this is a trial/experiment to set expectations with parents.
- The thought would be to host every Sunday (with some exceptions).
- The nursery team will be working on a playbook.
- The nursery team will also begin thinking about recruiting for the paid position, ideally targeting internal parishioners for the position.
- The group would like to have the nursery operational by Labor Day.

• Potential Ministry Fair

Mary shared with the council the possibility of hosting a ministry fair to introduce/reintroduce the various ministries that St. Peter supports. The purpose is less about recruitment of parishioners to serve in those ministries but rather educate parishioners especially since we have added so many new parishioners over

the past few years. We may be looking at the weekend of September 21/22 to host. Details TBD. Jody suggested we may want to video the event and post it on our St. Peter website.

- **Parishioner Feedback**

- Kudos to the sound system
- Parishioners asked what happened to the hymn board for the weekend services.
- Still a need for Cross Bearers and Ushers.

- **Commissions & Council updates**

Mary had previously asked council members to consider succession candidates for themselves as well as ministry leaders within their commissions. A spreadsheet containing names and contact information of individuals who lead all the individual ministries was distributed to Council members. Among the changes included Debbie Johnson (Parish Life), Carl Zaccardelli (20s/30s), and Vanessa Clarke (Faith in Action). Also discussed were potential candidates for a new co-leader for RITI and leader for The Men's Shelter.

Mary discussed the Pastoral Council meeting schedule for the coming year. We will meet on the 3rd Tuesday on the following dates:

August 19

September 16

November 18

February 17

April 21

June 16

We will also have a fellowship meeting in December with the Finance Committee (Date TBD)

Pastor's Comments (Father Tim)

Fr. Tim appreciated our parishioner's patience during the previous Sunday's 9AM and 11:30AM mass services when unbeknown to the church staff that the installation of the Wells Fargo signage blocked most access and egress in and around South Tryon Street. On another weekend, we also were challenged with The Taste of Charlotte and FIFA soccer matches. A council member suggested alerting Jean Niedert if they are aware of an unadvertised weekend event who could send a blast email out to parishioners ahead of the weekend services.

During the monthly meeting Fr. Tim attends with leaders of several area Uptown churches, they shared a mutual concern that many non-profit organizations who support our unsheltered and at-risk neighbors may be facing some financial challenges due to cuts in federal funding.

DMI Survey: The data release is forthcoming. We will get the results for St. Peter and for the Diocese of Charlotte as a whole; so we will be able to see our strengths and opportunities relative to the rest of the Diocese. We expect there will be opportunities for further discussion within the parish, using the principles of synodality and unity in communion, to continue building up the parish.

The weekend mass services of June 28 & 29, we will be celebrating the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul.

We will be hosting two recently ordained Jesuit Priests beginning the weekend of June 21-22. Frs. Joe Lorenz and Melvin Rayappa will begin celebrating Mass (weekend and weekday), reconciliation, weddings, and other

duties as assigned. Fr. Melvin will be with us through July 20 and Fr. Joe will be here through August 10. Our new Vicar (Fr. Mark Scalese) will join the parish on September 1.

St. Peter will be hosting the next Kennedy Lecture series on January 31. Sister Barbara Reid OP, a scripture scholar from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago will be our keynote speaker.

Fr. Tim asked the Council members to think about a Theme for the new year.

Fr. Tim stated we will be preparing for the annual Letter to the Parish which includes our financial summary and telling our "story". We are required to have the report posted no later than August 31st.

Over the summer, the staff will begin to review the accuracy of the number of households/individuals we currently have on record. (We currently show roughly 2,500 households and 6,000 individuals.) The last scrub of this data took place in 2019.

Consolations & Desolations: Several consolations were shared by Council members.

Mary acknowledges how blessed and consoled we were as a Council to have Keith Butler serve this body over the past three years, not only in leadership roles on the Pastoral Council, but also leading the Renovation and Repairs Committee. Allain Andry was consoled by the number of adults who are considering becoming Catholic. He said the interest was remarkable.

Keith presided over our closing inspiration with a heartfelt, personally written prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Moe Cieri
Secretary