

St. Francis of Assisi Pastorate Parish Council Meeting

Thursday, August 28, 2025 – 6:30 PM in Parish Office in Mt Horeb, Wisconsin

The St. Francis of Assisi Pastorate Parish Council met on Thursday, August 28, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Office in Mt Horeb Wisconsin.

In attendance were Father Brian Dulli, Father Prabhakar Singareddy, Parish Council Members – Paul Murphy, Nancy Parsley, Patty Powers, Jim Syse, Laura Tisch, Kevin Wall and Jerry Zander. Tory Meyer and Audrey Rue were absent.

Additional attendees included Parish Secretary Trustee – Lynn Ballweg-Schlimgen, St. Bernadette; Rosemary Murphy, St. Isidore; Kevin Hefty Finance Committee Chair; Marie Lins Director of Evangelization and Angie Sailing, Religious Ed Coordinator.

Vice Chair Paul Murphy called the meeting to order.

Father Dulli shared the “St. Francis on Trial: Lessons for the Synod” by Kristina Glicksman, October 4, 2018. Following the reading of the document, Council Members discussed and shared their reflections and comparison with today.

Meeting minutes from July 30, 2025, approved on a motion by Kevin Wall, seconded by Jerry Zander.

Update of the Parish Merger with official timeline of mid-November and celebration tentatively scheduled for Sunday, December 14th with Mass at Mount Horeb with time to be confirmed. Father Dulli will work to confirm the bishop’s schedule, with a tentative time of either 11:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.

Building and Grounds Committee updates included the study has been completed on the status of the Mount Horeb rectory with bids to be requested from three different companies with needed requirements and replacement costs. It was noted that land is currently available. The removal of the current rectory will allow for additional parking facilities plus handicap accessibility. Additional building projects include repairs to the basement wall issue at Barneveld and the church roof replacement at Hollandale. It is expected that all projects may be consolidated into a single capital campaign for financing purposes. Additionally, as we move forward with the merger and establishment of one Building and Grounds Committee suggestions will be requested for potential members.

Angie Sailing provided updates on the Family Faith Formation and Sacramental Prep for 1st & 2nd Grades. The Family of Faith Program will begin on 9/16 at St. Ignatius and 9/17 at St. Patrick’s. Sacramental Prep will kick off on 9/14 at St. Ignatius. Currently 67 families are enrolled in the Family Faith Formation (114 students / 18 teachers / 11 sub teachers). The Family Faith Formation will include families gathering; then parents and children separate; parents will have a featured guest speaker; children will return, and families will complete an activity together. Activities scheduled will include featured guest speaker relating to a Catholic faith topic; making Christmas cards for local Senior Citizens; food drive and Christmas Program with Mary Affeldt, Holy Redeemer Perry who has volunteered to play piano for the Christmas Program. Calendars are available with Sacramental Prep on 2nd Sunday each month at St. Ignatius, Family Faith on 3rd Tuesday each month at St. Ignatius and 3rd Wednesday of each month alternating locations between St. Patrick’s and Immaculate Conception.

Father Dulli shared information from Jennifer Stoddard on current Youth Ministry events – Barneveld – Ridgeway Grades 6-8 are part of the family catechesis this year while the Mount Horeb Grades 6-8 are part of the Youth Ministry, this is a transition year with next year all middle schoolers will have the same programming; Youth Ministry enrollment in Mount Horeb is 40 students, Jennifer writes the lesson plans and assists instructors, and currently is seeking additional parent volunteers. There are 30 Confirmation candidates and dates for Spring 2026 Confirmation will be submitted to the Diocese with St. Ignatius hosting the Pastorate Mass. The Ignite Youth Group is expecting 10 students (Grades 10-12) meeting twice a month, with the high school leadership team participating in planning and proactively inviting their peers to attend. New this year – possible Ski Trip to Tyrol Basin with Father Dulli.

Marie Lins provided updates on Evangelization efforts - the Go Make Disciples Team meets weekly and is going through the Rescue Project; OCIA has two people starting with preparations with an additional two possible that Marie is working to connect with; the Jubilee Year Pilgrimage is scheduling site visits for Saturday mornings in September, October and November with plans to meet at the site, attend Mass and pray together. The Women's Advent Event has been set for Sunday, December 7th at 1:00 p.m. at St. Patrick's in Hollandale with Kris Kranenburg, Director of Communications for the Diocese of Madison as guest speaker. Information for these events will be shared in the weekly bulletin and sent out using Flock Notes.

Discussion on Elevated Parish Mission Project for 2026 which assists with promoting the mission of the church and revival efforts. A team of nine members would work with the Evangelization Committee and Elevated Parish Mission Team, for approximately four months prior to the event on pre-planning process and post-mission accomplishment. The event schedule is for a three-night / two-hour each with a minimum of 300 ticket paying attendees. Ticket prices are \$35.00/person for all three nights, and St. Ignatius could accommodate the required number of attendees.

Information was provided on the Safe Environment required training with website address and log in information. The required Virtus Program and background checks for employees and volunteers, including the Pastorate Council and Trustees, with required completion every five years. You are encouraged to complete as soon as possible. Any questions, please contact Marie Lins.

Rosemary Murphy asked about the direction of the current Parish Secretary Trustee positions as we move closer to the merger of the Parishes. How many Trustees will there be, will this be an elected position, what will the status of the current Trustees be? Father Dulli indicated after the merger there will only be two Parish Secretary Trustee positions, and he will share additional information as to the process at the September meeting.

Father Dulli also noted that there will be changes with the Finance Committee following the merger. The Finance Committee has a meeting scheduled for October and the Committee membership / make-up post-merger will be addressed.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 25th at 6:30 p.m. at St. Patrick's in Hollandale.

Paul Murphy led us in a closing prayer.

Motion made by Nancy Parsley to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jerry Zander. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.