

St. Augustine Catholic Church
Pastoral Council Minutes
November 13, 2025

Council Members:

Present: Rev. M. J. Nicks, Debbie Battaglia, Carmen Piccolo, Mike Hutchinson, Paul Stewart

Absent: Malia Craven, Zack Cunningham, Greg Repetti

Meeting Called to Order at 6:05 PM

Fr. Nicks led the council in prayer. September 3, 2025, minutes were reviewed and approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Old Business

A. Christmas Events

- i. Dedicated reconciliation services have not been a part of the regular Advent or Lent schedules at St. Augustine for a number of years, but were a theme in the past. One or two parishioners have approached Fr. Nicks and expressed interest in them. Council members have not heard others express a desire for this, although they recall decent attendance when they were offered. Fr. Nicks also floated the idea of arranging to have an extraordinary confessor present during regular weekend Masses to make it as easy as possible for community members to have access to reconciliation. There was a general consensus that, if something were to be offered, Lent would be the best time, as Advent/Christmas already tends to be a time filled with activities for families.
- ii. The school will be having its Christmas program in the Church on December 16th and 17th.
- iii. Christmas Masses will follow the same schedule as last year. Christmas Eve Masses will be 4:00pm, 7:00pm, and 10:00pm. Mass on Christmas Day will be at 9am.
- iv. Tree of Giving – This has been a major success in our parish and has been well-received. The only concern was that there might not be enough tags available, as they are entirely removed from the tree the very first weekend, they are made available. It was suggested that additional tags or methods for engaging in similar charitable activities would encourage greater participation from parishioners. The successful Catholic Charities Christmas bureau was noted as a possibility. Debbie offered to see if there would be a way for us to collaborate on providing gifts for this event in the future.

B. Year of the Eucharist Theme Update

- i. The suggestion that quiet chant music be played during first Friday adoration is still being explored. Music has been selected but still needs to be tested to see if it works with our equipment.
- ii. Beginning next academic year, there will be an attempt to shift the school's adoration time 20-30 minutes later to allow for a greater period of quiet immediately following Mass for parishioners to have dedicated to prayer.
- iii. There will be a Eucharist-themed book study led by Deacon Richard during Lent.
- iv. There is still a tentative hope of planning a Eucharistic procession sometime this year.

C. HVAC

- i. The parish has received three bids for replacing the northern HVAC unit. Although the descriptions of each proposal seem to match, the estimated price is vastly different for each – ranging from around \$160,000 down to \$63,000.

- ii. Although hesitation was expressed regarding the lowest bid, all three companies have a long history and a strong reputation in the community. If the lower option is selected, it might allow replacing both units rather than just the northern unit. Regardless of which option is chosen, the HVAC will be our summer project for 2026.

Meeting was adjourned shortly before 7:00PM.