

# **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

August 11, 2025 – Church & Upper Room, 6 pm

In Attendance: Fr. Ivan Kalamuzi, Ben Braun, Michael Heinrichs, Laura Keener, Mary Ellen McDaniel, Pete Manczyk, Ambrocio Mendez, Tobias Nathe. Absent: Sheila Bacon, Sean Kunath, Jeff Talbert

Opening Prayer: Fr. Ivan Kalamuzi

May Minutes: Approved via email, May 23, 2025.

## Focused Topics:

Church Renovation, August Picnic, Latino Cultural Festival, September Pilgrimage

## Scripture for Reflection:

“Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life for evermore” (Psalm 133).

## Church Renovation

Fr. Ivan gave a summary of the renovation in its first stage. The confessional has been moved to the back where the library used to be. The space that used to occupy the confessional will now include an enlarged baptistry. The vestibule has been cleared and tiled, and a handicap accessible bathroom has been added. The nave has been repainted beige. The floor and the pews have been refurbished.

Future proposals include new statutes of St. Anthony of the Desert and Moses in the reredos. Marble flooring in the sanctuary. New carpet in the nave.

The previous plans for the stain glass windows and side altars are on hold.

## August Picnic & Ministry Fair

A flyer has been distributed by members of the implementation team describing the picnic and ministry fair on August 17, from 11 am – 3 pm. We have a map of the grounds, designating what occurs and where. This is an opportunity to dwell together in unity with fellow parishioners, especially those who might go to a different Mass or not come regularly to the coffee hour on the third Sunday of the month.

St. Anthony’s different ministries will be represented at tables, some of whom will have t-shirts reflecting their group. The Guatemalans have 10 different groups. Parishioners are encouraged to inquire.

Games shall include pickleball, volleyball, soccer, corn hole, etc.

Fr. Ivan's friend Patrick and his dad will roast a pig. Other food and drinks will be provided by parishioners, all free of charge.

The Guatemalans will set up the sound system and have a Spanish emcee. Ray Mertle will be the English emcee.

### Latino Cultural Festival

Saturday, **September 6**: 9 am – 4 pm and 6 – 10 pm. A soccer tournament will take place in the morning, involving eight teams. Cultural dancing and singing. Items will be auctioned.

Sunday, **September 7**: 11 am – 8 pm. A kids soccer tournament will be held, with the adult championship to follow. Cultural dancing and singing. Items will be auctioned.

We're looking for a live pig to chase in a mud pit.

Other details are forthcoming.

### September Pilgrimage

September 20 to the Abbey Gethsemane. The advertisement is in the bulletin and on Flocknote. So far, 21 people have signed-up.

Leave at 7 am via bus.

Arrive at Abbey around 9:30. A brother will give us an introduction to their life.

Mass from 11 am -12 pm by Fr. Ivan.

Sect is prayed at 12:15 pm.

Walks and private prayer.

Leave approximately at 2:15 pm.

Bellarmino University Library tour from 3 pm – 3:30 pm, which involves a display on Thomas Merton.

Return home approximately 6 pm.

Integral to our pilgrimage is the theme of the Jubilee Year and its emphasis on mercy and freedom. Tobias will write something to be added to the advertisement regarding this emphasis, encouraging pilgrims to go to Confession in advance of the pilgrimage and meet the other conditions necessary to receive a plenary indulgence.

Mary Ellen will put together a 9-day novena.

### **Addendum: Parish Council Ministry Reports**

## Michael Heinrichs

Finance Council Report - No meetings over the summer

St. Anthony Budget for 2025-2026 is being prepared for submission to Finance Council for approval and signatures.

Per last report for FY 2024-2025, appearing in 7/6/2025 bulletin:

Income \$344,303.50

Expenses \$323,340.00

Surplus \$20,963.50

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Our DPAA status as of 5/31/2025 -- Goal: \$20,300. Commitment: \$21,500. Over Goal \$1,200

Previously, over and above any rebates for this year, St. Anthony Church and School applied for three grants from the Diocese through the DPAA and received them! The church was awarded:

\$5,000.00 towards our Hispanic Ministry.

\$1,500.00 for installing an Automated Defibrillator in the Church.

The School was awarded \$1,500.00 for an Active Threat Safety Program.

## Sean Kunath

With One Heart:

-the Corpus Christi procession went well. We had a good turnout for the procession as well as the luncheon that followed.

-We have helped to organize the upcoming parish picnic. There will be food, games, and booths for the ministries to show off and recruit.

-we are working on how to help promote the September pilgrimage

Liturgy:

-renovation of the church has started. New paint, refinished pews, and refinished floors

-the confessional has been moved and the bathroom renovated. Two pews will be removed from the back of church to accommodate these changes.

-the old confessional is being converted into a baptistery with an exit.

-Trinity church supply has come out and taken measurements to help finalize the sanctuary layout so that prep work can be done.

## Pete Manczyk

The Deanery Pastoral Council (DPC) Orientation meeting for all new and existing members in the Diocese was held on Saturday, August 9 at the Curia. St. Anthony is part of the Covington Deanery. The Covington Deanery has a new Dean with Fr. Michael Comer replacing Fr. Ryan Maher. Fr. Ivan remains the Clergy Representative for the Covington Deanery. We have not received a new schedule on when our DPC will have its first individual meeting with Fr. Comer.

The emphasis on the orientation was understanding the bishop's vision for all the pastoral councils (including the Diocesan Pastoral Council and the Deanery Pastoral Councils), reviewing guidelines, and ensuring that we use "Spiritual Conversation" to begin our meetings across the Diocese. Of course, that includes the St. Anthony Parish Council. We reviewed "The Final Document of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops". There was one key line that applies to all of us – "A synodal Church is based upon the existence, efficiency and effective vitality of these participatory bodies, not on the merely nominal existence of them." That means that in this Diocese the value of the laity and input from all of us is welcomed by the bishop through the pastoral councils. Our service is important. Flocknote sign-up Sunday was successful with the addition of several parishioners to our communication system. I set up a separate Spanish distribution group within Flocknote.

The "33 Days to Eucharistic Glory" program appears to have been successful as well with Spanish videos sent through that group and English videos sent to everyone on our Flocknote list. The English videos are still on the parish website for those who wish to review them at any time. Flocknote content continues to be published regularly including weekly messages from Bishop Barron regarding the Sunday readings. Special messages are also sent out for Holy Days and some saint feast days. A weekly email is being sent out on Thursdays with content from the Diocese that includes short summaries, photos, and occasional videos (usually from the Messenger). A new message on Sundays has had favorable reviews – "Nugget from Fr. Ivan's Homily" (just a quick thought or two from the Sunday Mass to keep us thinking about Fr. Ivan's message through the week). We had to use the text alert feature in Flocknote (for those who have cell phone numbers attached to their accounts) to remind parishioners about how to deal with Impersonation Scams.

Update on new website – I have provided feedback to LPi on the draft of the new website. They will make nominal changes and let me review again. The next steps for me are training on the new management dashboard (maintenance is very different than the old website). I am hoping that Becki Walker and/or Mary Palmer will be able to join me in the training in the next month or so. After that, we will make a schedule to cut over to using the new website and disabling the old one.

The current website still is updated weekly and sometimes daily with parish information including links to Sunday readings, news about the renovation, picnic information, pilgrimage sign-up instructions, and other bulletin content. A big effort is underway to update the school section for the new year (in the process of getting content from Veronica Schweitzer and Lisa Bottom).

Pilgrimage online sign-up – There are sign-up instructions that have been sent out via a Flocknote email. This is in addition to the instructions in the bulletin which are for using the collection basket or parish center drop-off. The 3 steps are – viewing the itinerary, signing up using a Flocknote form (which puts them in a special communication group), and linking to the individual's WeShare account for payment. Several parishioners have used this process successfully. As of this email, 14 have signed up with 31 open seats. I am also consolidating the names from the manual process with the online ones so that we have one spreadsheet connected to Flocknote (giving weekly updates to Mary Ellen McDaniel and Mary Palmer).

Social media – At the Diocese’s request, we are now actively posting content (mostly from the Diocese) to Facebook and Twitter (X) from our new “Catholic Socia Media” account. We do post occasional Parish content too. This could be as much as 20 messages per week. We also can post to the same Facebook and Twitter (X) accounts from Flocknote too. The school also posts directly to Facebook (since it a combined account of the Parish and School). At Laura Keener’s recommendation, we are no longer going to use our old “Festival” Facebook and Twitter accounts, but instead post festival information on the same Parish/School accounts previously mentioned.

In July, the St. Anthony Men’s Group had a successful combined meeting at the St. Therese Men’s Group in Southgate, KY. At some point in the future, their group will join us for another combined meeting here at St. Anthony.