

Meeting Minutes**Church of the Madalene Parish Council Meeting****November 18, 2025****ATTENDANCE: Shaded area represents “present”, non-shaded represents “absent”**

Present	Name	Position
	Father Desmond Okpogba	Pastor
	Dcn Nelson Sousa	Deacon
	Dcn Kevin Stephenson	Deacon
	Paul Steiner	Facilities
	Kent Garrett	Finance Council
	Pat Howerton	Hospitality / Women of the Madalene
	Greg Moore	Knights of Columbus
	Mark Ballew	Member-at-Large – 7/2027
	Anne Edwards	Member-at-Large – 7/2026 – Safety Committee
	Ken Fike	Member-at-Larger – 7/2027
	Mary Whelan	Member-at-Large – 7/2028
	Robert Grant	Council Chair – 7/2028 / Member-at-Large
	Chris King	Member-at-Large – OCIA Director –Vice Chair 7/2028
	Steve Slusher	Member-at-Large – 7/2027
	Khadija Goz	Music Ministry
	Liz Poulter	Parish Life / Communications
	Trina Moore	Rec. Secretary/Member-at-Large – 7/2027
	Pat Seibert	Social Concerns
	Rachel Boeckman	Social Concerns
	Pat Burns	Member-at-Large – 7/2028
	Ian Riley	Youth

The meeting was called to order by Father Desmond who led us in prayer at 6:34 p.m. There were ten attendees.

Meeting minutes for October were reviewed, motioned, and seconded for approval with a few edits – Under Old Business, second sentence, the word “year” will be changed to the word “term”. Other corrections were noted and changed in the Attendance table above, and total catechumens are 4 (not 6) and candidates are 3 (not 1).

Old Business:

Our church will have a Christ the King procession on November 23rd (after 10:00 a.m. Mass). Everyone in the parish will be encouraged to meet in the vestibule and participate, regardless of which Mass each person attends. The procession will proceed from the north church parking lot, west on 22nd Street, south/southeast on Gary Avenue, to the southeast church parking lot, to the bell tower for a blessing.

To bring focus to the Catholic teachings and faith groups in our parish, the following will be encouraged:

- Statue of Mary to be held

- Church banner to be carried
- Knights of Columbus to wear their uniforms
- Scouts and American Heritage Girls to wear their uniforms
- Groups to carry banners/signs or wear Madalene shirts if they have them

Robert Grant and Chris King will check with Liz Poulter about the church banner, a canopy, and scheduling more altar servers and candles that day. The parish will be asked to go back into the church for the Women of the Madalene Bake Sale.

Liz found banners to be carried and there will be a Mexican band/dancers. For those responsible for groups, please remind them. Invite people to come! Robert volunteered Haley to create a flier with the route.

Update on the Parishioner count at Masses: 5:30 Mass averaged out for 3 weeks to 63, 8:00 was 69, 10:00 is 143. The Gridiron Gobbler Mass had 104 and that Sunday 10:00 Mass had 120. They will continue counting through the Advent season.

New Business:

Father's Report: Fr. Desmond mentioned Communio is a ministry that might be good to bring in more people to our church. It is a nonprofit ministry that trains and equips churches to share the Gospel through the renewal of healthy relationships, marriages and the family. Communio will pay the person we hire to teach this class. Other parishes are implementing this program.

Committee Reports:

Safety Committee (Anne Edwards): No report

Strategic Planning Committee: Fr. Desmond said the meeting will be Thursday, November 20th at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. There will be an option to attend online via Zoom.

Kitchen Committee: No report

Hospitality Committee (Pat Howerton): The Gridiron Gobbler/Chili Cookoff was well-attended and all had a great time. Christmas Caroling will be on 12/13 and last year about 45 attended. The News and EOC should be notified and Santa might show up. Pizza, cider and hot chocolate to be served.

Finance Council: Reports were presented and a discussion ensued on the outlook of our finances. QR codes have been placed around the church for online donations, no objections thus far.

Religious Education: No report

OCIA (Chris King): There are six catechumens and one candidate, for a total of seven in OCIA. Things are going great.

Parish Life: No report

Music: No report

Youth: No report

Social Concerns Committee (Rachel Boeckman): No report

Knights of Columbus (Greg Moore): Knights participated in assisting the Holy Family Knights council at Octoberfest as a revenue activity. We purchased a basketball net for the goal outside. On 12/7 the Knights will be having a pancake breakfast in the Hall. There are 3 new Knights and 3 new prospects. New KofC banners have been ordered. Faith formation on the first and third Saturdays after 8:00 Mass. Pat McFadden will be needing help at her house soon. Please pray for a qualified Treasurer to take over for Dave Jansen.

Women of the Madalene (Pat Howerton): : The Bake Sale will be held this weekend. Coffee and doughnuts will be for the dancers and the band only and Father will announce this @ Mass and place a sign in the hallway. Advent by Candlelight will be Tuesday, December 2nd.

Facilities: No report

Additional Business: Christmas potluck dinner is scheduled for 12/16 in the Parish Hall for the Parish Staff and Council members, committee chairs, and spouses.

Next Meeting:

The next Parish Council meeting will be a Potluck dinner and Christmas party on Tuesday, December 16th at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned by Father Desmond with a closing prayer at 7:28 pm.