

Tri-Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

February 17th, 2026

6:30-8:00PM

St. Joseph Parish Center

Minutes recorded by Mackenzie Hewitt

Attendance: Fr. Jim (P), Fr. Ryan (P), Sr. Janeth (NP), Magali Barajas (P)

Trustees: Mary Henningfield (P), Don Siehoff (P), Barb Bakshis (NP), Terri Newbury (P), Bob O'Neill (NP), John Gabaldo (NP)

Pastoral Council Members: Maddy Miller (P), Mackenzie Hewitt (P), Megan Cash (P), Julie Mermal (P), Michelle Pederson (P), Janna Tichenor (P), Joe Dedick (P), Holly Reesman (P), Laura Freeburn (P)

Guests:

Maddy Miller opened the meeting, prayer read by all, followed by spontaneous prayer by all.

Mission Statement read by all.

Approval of January minutes: approved with no edits

Standing Committee Reports:

(Reminder to Liaisons to inform their committee secretaries to send the approved meeting minutes to each parish so they can post them on their websites.)

Liaisons need to report only significant information that needs feedback from the Council.

***Send your minutes to Secretary (Mackenzie) so they can be sent out and viewed by PC members prior to our meeting

Worship/Liturgy liaison Michelle Pederson:

- None

Human Concerns liaison Holly Reesman:

- Pro-life: Mother's Day rose sale this year to benefit Life Choices Burlington and Life Connections Mukwonago. Support of New Day Women's Clinic Delevan with Mother's Day rose sale
- Knights of Columbus:

- Burlington Council: Had a Food Drive to benefit Love Inc. BCS funds: went to an “angel fund” for kids who can’t afford field trips. CCHS funds: assistance for transportation for kids in outlying areas to get into Burlington for school.
- Monsignor Heim Council: Fall food drive was successful. Baby Bottle campaign raised money for Life Choices. The Fifth Sunday pancake breakfast has been delayed two weeks: now April 12th, 2026
- Love, Inc. Meal Program: Dinners are provided the second Wednesday of the month, usually serves 20-30 people. Cooks may either choose to drop off food and leave, or stay to serve. Interested volunteers can come in through Time and Talent, call parish offices, or contact Rita directly.
- Pastoral Care
 - Helping Hands (SC): Have a need for homebound communion ministers. Many homebound seniors are too humble to ask for people to come visit.
 - Our Harmony Club (SJ): The program provides respite care for older adults. St. Joseph is currently serving 6 older adults and are always looking for more to be served. The program is open to anybody, and they do not need to be Catholic. A lot of people don’t know what this service is, despite it being regularly published in the bulletin. Fr. Ackmann will look into updating the phrasing in the bulletin advertisements. There is a small cost for the day. The last confirmed amount was \$45 a day.
 - Home communion:
 - SM: The team of 6 volunteers currently visits 15 people at 12 locations. The team brought forth a proposal to work together with St. Charles. As requests come into offices, teams will decide who will “absorb” the new request.
 - SC: Just received note that two new volunteers have been trained. Will put them into contact with St Mary’s team.
 - SJ: No one trained to go for visits. For now, requests should be submitted to the parish office.
 - Hospital communion: We do not designate a parish when going to visit, only the “Burlington Lyons Catholic Community.” Volunteers need to be approved by the hospital before being allowed to serve in the facility. Could use more volunteers, anyone interested should contact Ellen Voslar who will pass information to the hospital for onboarding.
 - St. Vincent de Paul: A recent shelter arrangement went unfulfilled. But SVdP does arrange both for shelter and transportation (Uber) when requested.
 - Prayer Network: Started a new list at Easter 2025. The current prayer list contains 128 people. Annual resets (clearing the prayer list) at Easter going forward.
 - CCHS Faith in Action Team (FIAT): Started a goal of getting students more involved in parish life. The new principal is interested in hands-on service. Tomorrow, February 4 is a CCHS day of service. The varsity basketball team will be serving food at Community Church in Waterford. The entire school will spend the second half of day tomorrow packing meals for the Waterford food pantry. FIAT has a raking day in the fall, and offers assistance to seniors at other points in

the year. Requests can go to Jennifer who will pass to CCHS to get kids involved in getting these community needs addressed and met.

- Holly mentioned the Human Concerns committee is one big committee that has several sub-committees all working together

Evangelization and Formation Liaison Megan Cash:

- REP: Souper Bowl of Caring was successful- raised over \$1,000 for our local elementary school in need. Love Begins Here registration is open
- OCIA: Preparation at St. Charles, 1pm, April 4th. "Come and See" is a series for those interested in the Catholic Church
- Hispanic Ministry: Teen fun night last Saturday
- Adoration: February- First Communicants and families at BCS. March- skip due to lent
- New business: The Lenten Showing of "The Face of God" at St. Charles after mass on Sunday
- Parish Mission: Margaret Rhody, March 15
 - Sunday: Jesus' Mission to Heal, after 5pm mass, dinner and talk in Andre Hall
 - Monday: "Freedom Through Forgiveness"
 - Tuesday: "A Night of Prayer for Healing"

Stewardship/Parish Life liaison Julie Mermal:

- **Mission Objectives and Personal Pledges- Retreat Review:**
 - Retreat is August 21-22, 2026 at the Benedictine Abbey
 - Welcoming suggestions for topics/themes of discussion for the retreat
 - Need for hospitality committee: set up for Friday night, snacks, drinks
 - Will include Pastoral Council members, parish staff, and Colleen
 - How faithful have each of us been to our personal pledges, have we had any encounters for calling, encountering, and sending disciples
- Stewardship: volunteer appreciation dinner, April 12th. Julie wants to reach out to the Knights for help volunteering. Thinking about ordering some food, Fr. Jim, Julie, and Holly will discuss logistics. We want to recognize volunteers and say a prayer/blessing, maybe a message/prayer/bookmark for volunteers
 - Could we have the volunteers mentioned at mass, spread it out over 3 weekends, have roughly 10-12 different categories to be recognized
 - Thank you cards: looking to see if anyone has a resource to have some thank you cards in stock to say thank you to the key leadership people

Burlington Catholic School Board of Directors liaison Maddy Miller:

- Registration for 2026-27, doing very well with preschool families
- Open house went well and was busy
- 5 new families at St. Charles campus

- Private 1 on 1 tours have been more successful, open house may be better for current families seeing the next year's classroom and meet the teacher
- Director of Development position opening up, want to hire someone to head the fundraising, this was part of the strategic plan that was created a few years ago
- Home and School- teacher appreciation, kringle sale raffle, blue jean ball

Finance:

St. Charles liaison Laura Freeburn:

- Fr. Jim talked about tri-parish business administrator
- B&G: boiler repairs, inspection needed every 3 years
- BCS: applying for security grant from non-profit, renovating bathrooms in St. Mary (ADA accessible), money is coming from the color run, discussed BCS subsidies from St. Charles

St. Joseph liaison Janna Tichenor:

- Security issues are ongoing, finances look good

St. Mary liaison Joe Dedick:

- Discussed finishing renovations before Christmas
- Putting together photos/records/prices from the last renovation from 50 years ago to compare to this year
- Budget on track

Hispanic Committee Report- Magali:

- Teen Fun Night: 6 teenagers, 50/50 from both communities, one mom reached out and said their kid had a lot of fun and is looking forward to the next one, Janna also said she's had good feedback
- Preparing for Cinco de Mayo
- Baby Jesus and tamales was a good turnout and success

Deanery Report (Michelle Pederson/Holly Reesman)

- None

Catholic Community Events: (including Hispanic Community events)

-February 27, March 13, March 27: St. Mary Fish Fry

-March 7: St. Charles Spaghetti Dinner

-May 3: Cinco de Mayo

-June 7: St. Joseph Chicken Dinner

-June 14: Tri-parish Outdoor Mass (location TBD)

ACTION ITEM: Mackenzie will add Cinco de Mayo (May 3), the Volunteer Appreciation Lunch (April 12), and Knights of Columbus Breakfast (April 12) to the March agenda calendar

Pastors' Comments -Fr. Jim:

- Anna Newbury coming on board for Sue Vrzan
- April 19th after 10:30 mass- Sue Vrzan celebration in Heim Hall
- Terri gave her resignation as trustee, Fr. Jim thanks Terry for her many years given to the parish community
- Rededication mass and dinner: very well attended

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Pastoral Transition Meeting- March 24th at 6:30pm Heim Hall
 - Father Nate Reesman is doing a talk and seeking input regarding the needs of parishes and school and the type of priest that would be a good fit
 - A short Pastoral Council meeting could take place following the transition meeting? 7:30ish, get meeting notes sent in so we can all read them beforehand
 - Transition team put together by Bob O'Neill, writing the parish profile, statistics on the parishes, he may reach out to talk and answer questions
 - Mission insight: platform the archdiocese has data gathered online, has a 6 mile radius around our parish
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Julie will reach out to Bob about this information and data
- Celebration of Service for Fr. Jim and Fr. Ryan
 - Potentially looking at June 14th after outdoor mass (location TBD)
 - One last outdoor tri-parish mass, Dan Haacker will spearhead the planning for this, Riverside Park, 10:30am (confirmed), setup on Saturday
 - There is a committee for this, if anyone is interested, contact Janna or Dan to be a part of the planning. Meeting Saturday after 5:30 mass, February 21st
- 2026 Nomination Process (Mackenzie)
 - The Tri-parish will begin to advertise for discernment in the bulletin starting next month. Begin thinking of people would be a good person to nominate to be on the Pastoral Council

- Julie will not be on the council during the retreat but can still run it, looking for someone to come along and shadow for next year

- **Event Requests:**
 - Mackenzie will email Joe S. about the lifesavers

Voice of the People: (opportunity for parish member input)

- None

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 24th, 2026 St. Mary Heim Hall (Around 7:30pm after the Pastoral Transition Meeting)

Need volunteer for Closing Prayer: Megan Cash

Closing Prayer: Michelle Pederson

Meeting Adjourned: Maddy Miller