

St. Charles Borromeo Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2026

Present: Mary Jo Bellinger, Patti Bohlman, Warren Bohn, Reyna Morales, Catherine Mudek, Mary Ann Nemeth, Judy Schneidewent, and Renee Segel

Excused: Fr. Gideon Buja, Fr. Shijo Thomas, Sr. Jennifer Daul

The meeting began at 6:35 with an opening prayer, Scripture reading, and reflection.

Old Business:

1. Correction of the February minutes after approval of the minutes.

Reyna moved and Renee seconded the motion to correct the minutes. The correction is to delete the sentence "The official notes are posted on the church website" under the Finance Council report.

Renee moved and Reyna seconded the motion to approve the correction. The motion passed.

2. Pastoral council discernment for 2026-2027.

- a. Two articles have been posted in the bulletin. Additional information will be in the bulletin after Easter.
- b. Prayer intercessions have been included in the weekend Masses. There will be intercessions on Good Friday and on Easter Sunday.
- c. The main work will take place at the April meeting.
- d. Renee and Catherine are preparing a PowerPoint to be shown on the TV in the back of church and in the gathering space on May 3, Café Sunday. Please respond the following questions to Renee or Catherine by April 15th.
 - i. "I joined the Parish Council because...."
 - ii. "I love being on council because...."

New Business:

1. Preparation for the Farewell Celebration for Fr. Shijo on May 2nd.

- a. Members of the council will provide food for Saturday and Sunday. Judy will send an email to enable members to indicate what they will bring.
- b. We will provide a decorated cake for Saturday and a second cake for Sunday unless the staff has already decided to do this. Catherine will check with Deb or Jenny to verify what they are planning.

- c. Catherine will contact the school principal to ask if they are doing something for Fr. Shijo. If not, she will suggest that a poster be prepared for students to sign and/or students be asked to prepare cards for Father.

2. Consider coming to Communion up the center aisle as we did before COVID.

After discussion we agreed to not suggest this change.

Pastor's Report (provided in writing due to Father's absence)

- Reconciliation—we've made sure our parishioners have had access to the sacrament of reconciliation in this season of Lent in the following ways:
 - Cluster Lenten reconciliation service at STR on March 21
 - Reconciliation for 1st communion candidates on March 21
 - Faith Formation reconciliation on March 23
 - SCB School reconciliation on March 27
- At the Archbishop's request, we (priests) are offering the sacrament of reconciliation for 12 hours today (March 25). So, I've been spending a good chunk of my day in the confessional at the Basilica of St. Josaphat. It gets very busy in the evening, which is why I couldn't be with you for our council meeting today. My apologies.
- First communion retreat is scheduled for March 28 at STR. Fr. Gideon is one (if not THE☺) of the keynote speakers. It's a wonderful opportunity to share with our children the meaning and effects of the Eucharist in our lives. Right now, we have 78 kids signed up.
- Please note that each parish will have its own Good Friday service. As communicated via the newsletter and bulletin, instead of Stations of the Cross before the Service, we'll create a quiet moment for personal prayers. Parishioners can pray in the gathering space or in church to slow down and truly get their hearts ready for the Prayer Service.
- April will be a busy month for our parish with Easter celebrations, First Communions, and Confirmations. Please keep in your prayers all those who will be receiving the different sacraments for the first time during this Easter Season.
- Dear Council members which way forward for the shroud of Turin initiative? After touching base with our staff, it's clear that the whole exercise entails a lot—transportation, set-up, volunteers to take shifts when open for people to see, etc. What are the prospects of getting volunteers? Should we forgo this interest at least for this year?

After discussion we agreed that due to the amount of space needed to put on this exhibit and the construction work that will be going on this summer, this project should not be undertaken at this time.

Commission/committee reports

1. Prayer and Worship – Warren Bonn

There was not meeting in March. But, the four music presentations were outstanding.

2. Formation – Judy Schneidewent for Sr. Jennifer Daul

Palm braiding will take place this Friday, March 27th. The movie “Power in Our Hands” will be shown again in May at St. Roman. The group is checking to see if a Spanish version is available. A book club for parents and children will be held in April. Praying with flowers will be offered in May. The movie “Brother Sun, Sister Moon” is planned for October during this Year of St. Francis.

3. Human Concerns – Reyna Morales

Ministry of the sick continues to take the Eucharist to the homebound. Eucharistic ministers continue to take Communion to those at St. Luke’s. The St. Vincent de Paul society is very active and dedicated. They continue to work on shelving in the hospitality room. Prayer Shawl ministers meet monthly and continue to provide shawls. Undy Sunday was a success collecting over \$1000 and over 300 items. There were 61 Parishioners anointed at the Anointing Mass. Funds from the Fall Food Drive will be donated to White Stone Warriors. Roses for Mothers’ Day and carnations for Fathers’ Day will be available at all Masses.

4. School – Mary Ann Nemeth

Game days were a success. Open House was a success. Eight new families came through. A pizza party incentive for most class visitors worked and will be repeated. In school auctions were held with principal for a day and lunch with the principal the most popular bids. School review was a success. Pancake Breakfast will be held on March 29th. An Easter egg hunt will be planned to include older students as well as the younger students. Earth Day will be celebrated on 4/22 with seed planting and trash pick-up. Olympic Day is scheduled for May 15th. A Color Run Fundraiser is planned. Mrs. Stone is working on a Family Business Fair where parents and families can network their small businesses.

5. Parish Life – Renee Segel

Adult Game Night went well with 35 people attending. Family Game Day also went well with 17 kids attending. Future events include a puzzle/game exchange, Trivia Night, and Vacation Bible Camp. VBC is scheduled for June 17th for grades K-3.

6. Stewardship – Catherine Mucek

No meeting to report.

Finance Council – Patti Bohlman

A report was given.

Additional discussion – Name Tag Weekends

After discussion we agreed to cancel Name Tag weekend for April due to the Easter holiday.

After discussion we agreed to have Name Tag weekend in May.

The meeting ended at 7:45.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Judy Schneidewent, secretary