

St Alphonsus Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday June 12, 2025

Present: Fr. Kevin McManaman, Fr. Anthoni Jorge, Harold (Jim) Anderson, Christine Blackwood, Alan Close, Maggie Ensing, Art Hokanson, Sandy Kramschuster, Kathy Monacelli, Camille Nicolai, Mary Sue Taft, Linda Witkowski and Mike Wusterbarth

Guests: Sr. Eileen, and newly elected 2025/2026 Councilors Nadine Flemming and Mary Newell

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm by Linda Witkowski

1. **Opening Prayer** – Fr. Kevin
2. **Approval of May 8th, 2025, Meeting Minutes** – With a correction to change hosting to co-hosting of this year's summer bible camp with St Martin of Tours, Camille Nicolai motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Art Hokanson, none opposed, motion passed.
3. **Parish Council Officer Discernment conducted by Sr. Eileen.** The following open positions were recognized; nominations were brought forth and votes were cast:
 - a. Linda Witkowski has completed her term as Pastoral Council member; therefore, the Chair position is open. Kathy Monacelli nominated Christine Blackwood. No other nominations were made. Sr Eileen confirmed Christine's willingness to serve, and a vote was taken with all in favor and none opposed. Therefore the 2025-26 Chair position will be held by Christine Blackwood.
 - b. Kathy Monacelli was nominated to serve one more year as Vice-Chair by Mary Sue Taft. No other nominations were brought forward. Sr. Eileen confirmed Kathy's willingness to serve one more year. A vote was taken with all in favor and none opposed. Therefore the 2025-26 Vice-Chair position will be held by Kathy Monacelli.
 - c. The current Secretary position was held by Christine Blackwood; therefore, it will now become vacant. An initial nomination for Mary Newell was made, however Mary declined the invitation, feeling that she would like to get more familiar before taking on such a role. A second nomination was made by Kathy Monacelli for Camille Nicolai to serve this position. No other nominations were made. Sr. Eileen confirmed Camille's willingness to serve, and a vote was taken with all in favor and none opposed. Therefore the 2025-26 Secretary position will be held by Camille Nicolai.
4. **Farewell Address by Fr. Anthoni:** Fr. Anthoni reflected on the many things he will take back with him as he returns to India. He expressed gratitude for the spiritual and pastoral growth he experienced during the past two years with witness to a parish rooted in service, teamwork, and learning. He himself learned the importance of balancing the community needs, pastoral care and stewardship. He expressed a deepening of faith, a clearer sense of how to serve the church and a greater appreciation of the gifts and perspectives of others. He goes back to India with warm gratitude, and friendships and refused to say goodbye, but instead, until we see each other again.
5. **Love One Another-Charitable Fund Final Disbursement Request:** Sr. Eileen representing the Love One Another Committee presented the final three fund distribution requests. She explained their merits and asked for a vote of the Council. After a Q & A, Christine Blackwood motioned to approve the distributions as requested, Sandy Kramschuster seconded the motion, and all voted in favor with none opposed; therefore, the motion passed for the three benefactors as follows:
 - a. St. Bakhita Catholic Worker House in Milwaukee – Grant of \$5,150 toward bathroom upgrades at the home that services the needs of women impacted by human trafficking.
 - b. Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church- Divine Intervention for the Homeless – Grant \$5,150 toward the dishwasher replacement, three handicapped accessible toilets and refrigerator replacement.
 - c. Beyond Beauty for Survivors – Grant \$1,300 for new shared water tank at school/orphanage in Uganda.
6. **2025-26 Meeting Dates** – Currently the PC meeting takes place on the 2nd Thursday of the month and committee meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. It was suggested that it would make more sense if the PC meetings took place timelier after the committee meetings rather than before to obtain more current information. Fr. Kevin took the request under advisement and indicated that moving the meeting to the 1st Thursday of the month may be a good compromise. He will get back to us with dates in the following weeks.
7. **Committee Updates:**

- a. **School** – Recruitment has been good with 3K full and 4K in good shape. The new Principal will have some changes forthcoming with more information to come as the new school year approaches.
- b. **Christian Formation** – Karen is working on next year, class schedules have been set and the new Assistant Director of Child Formation starts 8/1/2025.
- c. **Liturgy/Worship** – Two notes from Easter; 7 am mass on Palm Sunday may not be needed and Holy Thursday to be moved back into the community room as the chapel is too crowded. The music ministry is going strong. Usher count is up, however more are still needed for 9am mass. 12 new servers were being trained. Their next meeting will be in August.
- d. **Human Concerns-**
 - i. Emergency food pantry is running well.
 - ii. Community meal program is within budget
 - iii. Dementia care group has 4 members.
 - iv. Rose Sale raised \$1500 for WI Right to Life.
 - v. The Care for Creation committee had a Scout Lake clean up in April and are looking for a fall project.
- e. **Hands and Hearts –**
 - i. Ten new parishioners were welcomed to St Alphonsus this past month.
 - ii. The next name tag Sunday will be in September.
 - iii. We will have a booth to promote the church and school at the Downtown Greendale Market this summer.
 - iv. The committee is reaching out to homebound parishioners and sending them cards.
 - v. The committee is also looking at a social event to promote community in conjunction with the school this fall.
 - vi. A children's corner is being considered for the corner of the community room.
- f. **Finance Council-** The April financials were reviewed with \$80k reported ahead of budget and in alignment with the new year's approved budget. The committee is preparing for the ARCH audit in the coming year and for the School Choice program application for next year. This application process will require a significant amount of work by the finance committee to document the allocation of expenses between the parish and school.

8. Pastor's Report

- a. **Adjusting to one priest** – funerals are currently seen as a considerable challenge when multiple come in at the same time. Deacons will handle 2 of the 3 care center services, with Harbor Village remaining a full mass that Fr. Kevin plans continue serving. The 7am Monday mass at St. Al's will be discontinued.
- b. **School** – All open positions have been filled. Mr. Jerry is stepping away from his volunteer role at the school. K3 program for the upcoming year is currently taking new families onto a waiting list.
- c. **Parish Open Positions** – All parish positions are filled. A decision was made to hold off on hiring a Facilities Director. The 2nd custodian position has been filled, and 3 summer helpers were hired. At the parish office the PT receptionist position has been eliminated.
- d. **Auction** – School families have really stepped up in facilitating and participating in the auction. The event came in slightly under budget. There were some issues with the venue and it was concluded that next year the event will be held in the community room at St Al's
- e. **Strategic Planning** – Fr. Kevin and Tom Frederickson from the ARCH will be meeting to discuss long term strategic planning.
- f. **St Alphonsus Day -** Planning is underway to have a catered annual event – taking place the 1st Sunday in August.

9. Continuing/Informational Items:

- a. **May 20th All Committee Meeting Debrief** – Committee reports were too long, need brief report with a rotation of sub-committees rather than all sub-committees each time. It was also felt that we need to mix & mingle better with table assignments to break up the audience during the meeting rather than having everyone sit within their familiar committee seats.
- b. **Hospitality weekend June 14/15 hosted by Parish Council** – This will take place after all masses both days as a farewell to Fr. Anthoni. A gift will be presented, and he will be honored at all masses.
- c. **A revised Council Appendix for 10-12 members and moving the youth position to optional** – this is now ready to send to the ARCH.

d. September Leadership In-Service – This will take place on 9/23/25 and all parish council and committee members are asked to attend.

10. Closing Prayer – Fr. Kevin

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm by Linda Witkowski

Respectfully submitted by Christine Blackwood