

**Present:** Msgr. Thomas Cook, Fr. Miguel Proanõs, Sandy Strand, Cheryl Meger, Jackie Evans, Shirley Schultz, Terry Evans, Jim Joachim, Stacey Hannover, Dcn. Scot Berkley, and Ray Bissen.

**Call to Order & Prayer:** Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Jackie Evans, Council Chair. Msgr. Cook led the group in the prayer.

**Agenda Approval:** Agenda was reviewed and approved.

**Review and approve minutes from May 20, 2025, meeting:** Motion was made by Stacey Hannover to approve the minutes as written. Jim Joachim seconded the motion and all approved.

**Old Business:**

- **Parish Directory –**

- Jackie, Cheryl and Msgr. Cook completed the parish life pages
- The directory draft was sent in and returned August 19 for proofreading
- Final copies will probably arrive mid to late September
- Will recruit volunteers to assist with distribution of the directory in the Parish Center after all Masses for two weekends - perhaps during a donut Sunday

- **REP Family Night –**

- Wednesday, February 4, 2025, 5:30 PM is the date/time chosen for this year
- Pizza will be served, and volunteers will be called upon to bring desserts
- Terry Evans will ask the Knights of Columbus if they would consider financially supporting the event

- **Parish Life Committee**

- This discussion was tabled until next meeting as Andrew Thigpen was unable to attend the meeting.
- The pastoral council voted in agreement at the May 20, 2025 meeting to support Andrew in initiating this adhoc committee.

- **Oak Hill Community Connections project –**

- Msgr. Cook and Sandy Strand will review the second collection schedule for the year to determine the best dates for a quarterly series of second collections to fund this project.
- \$5,000 will be pledged, no monies will be paid out until 2026

- **Altar Servers**

- Msgr. Cook and Dcn. Scot will do training, perhaps during the school day
- Ray Bissen will go to classrooms during his prep time at St. Mary's and speak with students and also serve as the parent volunteer to assist with organization
- Information will be shared with Caroline Bauer for creating the schedule
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be the youngest servers recruited
- Discussion will continue about a type of party or some type of "thank you" for altar servers

- **Parish Picnic**

- Saturday, October 4, 2025, is the scheduled date for the picnic
- Similar format to last year with a potluck (Jackie Evans will organize) and trivia game (Dcn. Scot will contact Lucas Arendt)
- Dcn. Scot will reach out to the young adult group to perhaps make this their meeting event
- Fr. Miguel will reach out to Hispanic Mass participants and encourage participation
- Sandy Strand will advertise the Parish Picnic in the bulletin after Labor Day

**New Business:**

- This will be the last Pastoral Council meeting for member Cheryl Meger will as she will transition to the School Board at St. Mary's Catholic School
- Members of the Pastoral Council introduced themselves to Fr. Miguel, welcomed him, and heard a little of his life story.

**Next Meeting:** November 18, 2025 @ 5:30 pm

**Agenda Planning for Next Meeting:**

- Update on Parish Life Committee
- Parish Picnic review
- Oak Hill Community Connections quarterly collections dates
- Altar server recruitment update
- REP family night planning
- Potential celebration of 160 years as a parish
- Additional agenda items may be forwarded to the council chair via email.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Meeting was adjourned by Jackie Evans at 6:11 pm.

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**15 Minute Break – followed by a joint meeting of the Pastoral Council and Finance Council to hear the Pastor's Report.**

## Pastor's Report:

- **Diocesan Synod.** Emphasis will be on evangelization and vocations (more priests and more people in the pews).
  - The Synod itself will take place with two representatives from each parish (we actually were invited to bring more) on August 21 and 22, 2025, in Mankato.
  - Serra Club representative Shirley Schultz, Young Adult group facilitator and former FOCUS missionary Daniel Boubin, Stephen and Peggy Nelson, Dcn Scot, and Msgr. Cook will represent our parish at the Synod.
  - Priorities will be voted upon at the meeting and passed along to Bishop Barron
- Welcome to Fr. Miguel and introductions to the Finance Council
- Caroline Bauer was hired as the Music and Liturgy Coordinator. Her husband Gabriel will be assisting.
- A new hymnal has been purchased from Source and Summit. It has online resources for musicians and coordinators. We will begin using this hymnal during the Advent season.
- Young Adult group is thriving. "Stump the clerics" will be a game played at the next meeting.
- Conversations have begun to start a Catholic Youth Group, hopefully in 2026!
- We will be celebrating 160 years as a parish in 2026. Plans for a celebration will be discussed at upcoming Pastoral Council meetings.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cheryl Ann Meger, Outgoing Secretary