

Our Lady of Hope Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday March 24, 2026 (St. Francis, St. Mark Room)

Attendance			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fr. Craig Best (Pastor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fr. Brice Berger (Parochial Vicar)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carl Whittenburg (Executive Director)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diane Horvath (SFDS School Principal)
St. Philip the Apostle Members		St. Francis de Sales Members	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pete Beerse (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Geier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Martz (Vice Chair)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Jo Grinder	<input type="checkbox"/> Darren Backstrom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Nottingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephanie Smith
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Spoelker		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony DeFalco	

I. Opening

The meeting was opened by Fr. Craig with prayer at 7:07 PM.

II. Roll Call and OLOH Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

- Roll call as noted above.
 - Kyle Wunderlich stepped down creating St. Francis vacancy
 - Stephanie Smith will step down after the summer
 - Fill 2 positions with selection from “vetted” candidates on Pentecost
- Minutes from March 2026 council meeting were reviewed.
 - Motion to approve the minutes passed and they will be posted on the parish website.

III. Business Updates

1. Property Management (Maintenance and Facilities)

- St. Francis de Sales
 - Repainting inside of church
 - Architect consultants for color suggestions - \$2,500
 - Tentative start in June
 - Preschool possibly Fall 2026 using church for sale on Broadway
- St. Philip the Apostle
 - Undercroft almost complete
 - Key fob access to church door and elevator from undercroft

2. Proposals / Bids for Review

- See Property Management

3. Finance Committee

St. Francis de Sales (2026 FYTD through February 2026)

- Operating Income (Church) \$776,445 – \$73,763 ahead of budget
- Operating Income (School) \$764,668 – \$53,743 behind budget
- Total Operating Income \$1,629,991 – \$55,632 ahead of budget
- Operating Expenses (Church) \$588,416 – \$106,682 ahead of budget
- Operating Expenses (School) \$1,022,204 – \$180,160 behind budget
- Total Operating Expenses \$1,641,142 – \$76,000 behind budget
- Net (\$11,151) – \$20,638 behind budget

- Shifted some costs (particularly partial staffing) from parish to school for accuracy of charging where resources are being used.

St. Philip the Apostle (2026 FYTD through February 2026)

- Operating Income \$544,264 – \$24,098 ahead of budget
- Operating Expenses \$1,078,317 – \$410,047 behind budget
- Net (\$534,053) – \$385,949 behind budget
- Net deficit due to planned building expenses being funded by \$500,000 from savings

4. St. Francis de Sales School

- 208 for 2026-2027 – Currently 195
- Have good candidates for 3rd grade and 6th-8th math teachers
- Need a new reading and possibly math curriculum to include professional development
- Need new computers
- Partnered with Real World Real Money for financial education program
- Continued to onboard Champions for before and after care
- Religious education
 - Prayer cards
 - Seminary field trip
 - 5th – 8th grade confession
 - May be consecrating school to Sacred Heart of Jesus

IV. Old Business

1. Presbyteral Council

- Three families of parishes approved to merge
- Looking to get onto May 4th meeting agenda to request a vote for official merging by September 1st

V. New Business

1. OCIA has ~40 candidates

VI. Pastor's and Parochial Vicar's Comments

1. Fr. Craig
 - None
2. Fr. Brice
 - None

VII. Closing Prayer

Next meeting – Tuesday, May 26th, 2026 @ 7:00 PM in St. Philip, Undercroft

The meeting was closed by Fr. Craig with prayer at 8:30 PM.