

Our Lady of Hope Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday May 26, 2026 (St. Philip, Undercroft)

Attendance			
☒ Fr. Craig Best (Pastor)	☒ Fr. Brice Berger (Parochial Vicar)	☒ Carl Whittenburg (Executive Director)	☒ Diane Horvath (SFDS School Principal)
☒ Ryan Lentini (Visiting Seminarian)			
St. Philip the Apostle Members		St. Francis de Sales Members	
☒ Pete Beerse (Chair)	☒ Ken Geier	☒ Stan Martz (Vice Chair)	☐ Vacant
☐ Mary Jo Grinder	☒ Darren Backstrom	☒ Gary Nottingham	☐ Stephanie Smith
☒ John Spoelker		☒ Anthony DeFalco	

I. Opening

The meeting was opened by Fr. Craig with prayer at 7:05 PM.

II. Roll Call and OLOH Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

- Roll call as noted above.
- 4 people self-nominated to fill SFdS vacancy left by Kyle Wunderlich and Stephanie Smith. Visiting seminarian Ryan Lentini choose two from a hat.
 - Rich Beckman and Joe Wellinghoff
 - Will notify and announce in bulletin
- At this time in 2027, two SPtA council members will cycle off and be replaced by new members from SPtA. Pete Beerse announced he will leave at that time. An additional is TBD.
- 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. Philip the Apostle
 - Undercroft renovation complete.
 - Getting bids on other projects including
 - Kitchen – see 2. Bids / Proposals
 - Restrooms – expanding men’s and women’s including moving a wall into existing space.
 - Other projects include flooring, ceiling tiles, lighting, drywall and panel walls.
 - St. Francis de Sales
 - N/A
2. Proposals / Bids for Review
 - Bid for kitchen renovation of \$22,372 presented.
 - Motion made and approved to spend up to \$24,900 (maximum without archdiocesan approval on SPtA kitchen renovation.

3. Finance Committee

- 2026-2027 Budgets presented to and approved by the Finance Committee.

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

- Operating Income \$721,142 – \$66,606 ahead of budget
- Operating Expenses \$1,257,695 – \$422,632 behind budget
- Net (\$536,553) – \$356,026 behind budget
- 2026-2027 Budget Net (future projects not included) – \$2,389.00

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

- Operating Income (Church) \$1,041,981 – \$101,414 ahead of budget
- Operating Income (School) \$1,025,967 – \$30,182 behind budget
- Total Operating Income \$2,168,999 – \$105,701 ahead of budget
- Operating Expenses (Church) \$720,839 – \$148,032 ahead of budget
- Operating Expenses (School) \$1,261,039 – \$208,484 behind budget
- Total Operating Expenses \$2,020,783 – \$64,359 behind budget
- Net \$148,216 – \$41,342 ahead of budget
- 2026-2027 Budget Net (future projects not included) – \$22,000.00

4. St. Francis de Sales School

- Carlo Acutis painting donated by Deacon Jay and Kathleen Rettig and presented during dedication ceremony
- Enrollment end of 2025-2026 – 194
- Anticipated enrollment 2026-2027 – 207
- Evaluating waitlists – lower grade waitlists were larger, but some have moved on to other schools.
 - Kindergarten – 25 + 2 wait list
 - 1st – 25 + 1 wait list
 - 2nd – 24 + 2 wait list
 - 3rd – 24 + 2 wait list
 - 4th – 29 + 3 wait list
 - 5th – 20 + 0 wait list
 - 6th – 25 + 2 wait list
 - 7th – 18 + 0 wait list
 - 8th – 17 + 0 wait list
- Ed Choice update – 10th District Court of Appeals heard case on May 12, 2026 with results expected in the coming months. Proponents anticipate a positive outcome but may go to the state supreme court.
- New Spanish Teacher – Allison Renken
- 3rd Grade – Kylie Davis
- Middle School Math – Amelia “Amy” Luck (Stephanie Krumholtz retired but may help as she can.
- Preschool
 - Currently on hold.
 - Need to build plan to inform future choices.

IV. Old Business

1. Parish Registration September 2025 – April 2026

- SFdS
 - New registrations – 156 (18 single / 23 couples / 26 families)
 - Unregistered – 2 (2 deceased)
- SPtA
 - New registrations – 109 (14 single / 15 couples / 15 families)
 - Unregistered – 11 (2 deceased / 7 changed parish / 2 unknown)
 - Weekly mass attendance up 12.9%
- Stewardship increasing but not keeping pace with inflation.

2. Revisited hosting a regular new parishioner welcome event.

V. New Business

1. Parish merger officially approved by Presbyteral Council – currently TBD but likely Oct-Nov 2026.
2. SPtA committee meetings continue to discuss worship space. Archbishop approved a feasibility study to evaluate options including upgrading existing space and building a new church.
3. Stewardship campaign – Carl Brown to assist sometime in the fall.
4. Beginning to pass baskets for collection starting in July..
5. Staff – 3 new hires
 - SFdS Admin (part-time) – Brenda Hazelwood (replacing Teri Carmack)
 - SPtA Admin (part-time) – Wendy Battaglia (afternoon admin)
 - Director of Evangelization – Paul Kindt promoted replacing retiring Jerry Robinson
 - Director of Family Evangelization – Pam Kallmyer
6. Beacons of Light – Shifting to Family Unity Discernment
7. Pentecost breakfast held at SPtA – over 120 people attended
8. Nick Stroud won \$1,000 from KofC Cash Bonanza
9. Chris Stefanick Reboot October 21, 2026 7:00-9:30 @ SFdS

VI. Pastor's and Parochial Vicar's Comments

1. Fr. Craig
 - N/A
2. Fr. Brice
 - Ryan Lentini – Seminarian staying with Fr. Brice at SPtA for the summer.

VII. Closing Prayer

Next meeting – Tuesday, July 28th, 2026 @ 7:00 PM in St. Francis, St. Mark Room

The meeting was closed by Fr. Craig with prayer at 7:51 PM.