

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2026 (*Note: March meeting canceled*)

Attending

Fr. Ernest, Katie Johnson, Melissa Pakurar, Arlene Masters, Cathy Jones, Tom Bahr, Alex Clark, Erin Drumm, Lois Ann Guschke, Chit Peters, Melisa Phillingane, John Thompson

Absent

Chris Colohan, Joyce Navary

Arlene Masters led the group in opening prayer.

New Stations of the Cross

This discussion will be postponed until the May meeting so that samples of various Stations of the Cross styles will be available.

Stewardship

The Stewardship Committee has met one time. Katie is trying to get in touch with David Sams, Parish Fundraising and Stewardship Officer for the Catholic Community Foundation, to set up a meeting for input and ideas.

St. Ann 2.0 (Pathways to a Thriving Parish) Update

Gathering opportunities continue for the St. Ann 2.0 Conversations in the Spirit series. The third discussion focus is "Faith Formation for All Ages". The first meeting on this topic will be between the Masses on Sunday, April 19, and repeated the following Friday morning (April 24) and Saturday afternoon (April 25). Even though not all the original committee members have been able to continue, Cathy Jones commented that this process has provided very good tools that are useful in many situations. A key takeaway is learning to listen.

Welcoming New Parishioners

Katie Johnson has provided updated information for the welcome packets for new parishioners. We agreed to set up a table in the Commons after Masses the first weekend of each month (to coincide with Hospitality weekends) as a Welcome Table for new parishioners. This will begin in May, and volunteers for that month are in place. This will not be a formal session but rather a defined spot to ask questions and/or express interest in specific areas. There will be an ambo announcement about this. Parish Council members will handle the logistics for table setup, with a poster/sign, welcome packets, and notebook for recording any needed follow-up. Arlene proposed and Katie agreed that this responsibility should remain with Parish Council and pass from council to council as members change.

Podcast Suggestion

Based on his interviews with parishioners for St. Ann's Centennial history, Alex Clark suggested having a St. Ann podcast (Angelic Bugle 2.0, perhaps!). He envisions this as an opportunity to talk with parishioners who would be willing to share their faith journey with others. There would be some expense in setting up a studio, but Alex has the equipment and space at his house if we wanted to start there. Fr. Ernest said that since it is a church podcast the recording should be at church, face-to-face conversations in a familiar environment. The actual podcast would be audio only.

Cemetery Sign

Melisa Phillingane reported that the old cemetery sign (at the corner of Harrowgate and Beechwood) has been taken down. A new sign has been made by Wyatt Signs in Petersburg and will be vinyl-

wrapped. The new vinyl poles will be cemented into the ground within the next week or two. The new sign and poles meet code. Melisa said the sign at the cemetery itself is also ready to be replaced, but that will be a separate project.

Bell Tower Bell

Melisa Phillingane asked if we could return to ringing the bell in the bell tower before each Mass. This idea was well received and would be an additional usher assignment.

Mission Statement

Tom Bahr asked about the status of the Parish Mission Statement. Last month it was suggested that it be developed with parish input using the synodality approach. Katie said that best practice suggests that a mission statement should ideally be less than 20 words. Longer ones are more of a vision statement. A request for parishioner ideas could be put in the bulletin.

Easter Vigil Reception

Chit Peters commented that the Easter Vigil was wonderful in every way and very well attended. The reception was also very successful, and many people came and stayed. However, they did need more people for the final kitchen cleanup. The ones that were there didn't finish until 1:30 a.m.

Closing

Fr. Ernest led the group in closing prayer.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2026.