

Sacred Heart Pastoral Council Minutes – November 25, 2025

Members Present

Pastor: Fr. Portelli	Taylor Rhode
John Coleman (by phone)	Tom Fruchey
John Cantalin	Nathan Davis
Michael Beltrame	Rachael Hock
Mark Harris	Kathy Kazanski

Excused

Renee Benser-Swanstra

The meeting was called to order at 6:20pm by the Council Chair, and the meeting was opened with prayer led by Fr. Portelli.

The first item was to review, and approve, the Council Minutes from the last meeting.

New Items

- **Sacred Heart Campus Security (III)**
 - Father gave summary of past security activities undertaken over the past 6 years. There have been attempts to somewhat “harden” the Church venue. However there have been no directives from the Diocese in the past. Father introduced Tyler Plude (Sacred Heart Parishioner) who had attended the latest Diocese Church Security program. Tyler gave a brief summary of the presentation’s scope. We will await the coming information from the Diocese which is expected in the new year. In the meantime, Father is investigating implementation of a “door monitoring” system for the Parish Center, whereby visitors to the Center could be “viewed” prior to being admitted to the building...more to come.

- Tyler expressed an interest in being involved with future Security plans and implementations as his time allows. He also possesses the knowledge and interest to assist Father with technical issues regarding equipment and equipment interfaces to assist in the overall security infrastructure for the Parish.
- A motion was made (M. Harris), and seconded (T. Fruchey), to proceed on the purchase and set-up of door cameras/view screens for the Parish Center. The motion passed unopposed.
- **Diocese “Weapons Policy” (III)** - (review email from 2023) The email, not previously reviewed by the Council, clarifies that the Diocese of Saginaw designates all Churches, and associated Church Buildings, as “Gun Free Zones”.
- **New Council Norms (III)** – These new, or modified “Norms” from the Diocese are intended to return the existence, and function of the current Finance and Pastoral Councils to the framework of current Canon Law. (A comparison of the “old” and “new” Norms will be included in these minutes.)
- Fr. Portelli gave an update on the **Diocesan Building Commission guidelines (III)** for parish and school project approvals, dated October 2025.
- **Parish participation in the Gladwin Parade of Lights (II)**, December, 6 2025, was not organized this winter. However, plans for a small more permanent parade float will be created to facilitate participation in all upcoming parades throughout the year in Gladwin.

Updates

- 2025-2026 CMA is approximately 50% complete. **(III)**
- Church Marquee will need a slight change from the current proposal to meet City of Gladwin ordinance. We now plan to reduce the height of the intended sign. **(III)**
- New church entry doors will be a commercial grade fiberglass that looks like wood. These two doors are located by the long concrete ramp. Doors must first be approved by the Diocese. **(II & III)**
- Father Portelli and John Cantalin reviewed Activity Center Foundation plan to take core samples from the area. Core samples were encouraged by the Diocese before other means are taken to improve the building. **(III)**
- K of C update given by Mark Harris who reviewed funds from over 5 past Fish Dinners that were dedicated to community needs. **(II)**

Open Discussion

- Discussion of our Parish Bad Weather protocol. When Gladwin schools are closed, there are times when afternoon or evening meetings could possibly occur when roads are cleared.
- We will check on the current sound system for the Activity Building to see if it is loud and clear enough to be heard around the room.

Next Meeting

TBD

The Pastoral Council Meeting ended at 8:35 pm with a prayer lead by Father Portelli.

Minutes compiled by: Kathy Kazanski and John Cantalin