

**Church of the Resurrection
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2025**

The Resurrection Pastoral Council gathered in the Church of the Resurrection Hall for its January meeting which began at 7:45pm.

Attendance :

P = Present E = Excused

Pastoral Council (voting members)

<u>Member</u>	<u>Status</u>
Martin Fienkeng (VP)	E
Greg Jolissaint (P)	P
Bill Judy	E
Tom Lauer	P
Gina Maclean	E
Lorraine Miano-Fike (CS)	P
Cathy Parrish	P
Paul Reif	P
Carolyn Sherman (RS)	P
Paul Venginickal	P
Brad Weiss	P
Julie Winpisinger	P

Others in attendance

<u>Clergy</u>	
Msgr. Andy Aaron	Pastor
<u>Committees</u>	
Liturgy	Roy Harris
<u>Invited Guests</u>	
RSPS HSA rep	Sara Thomas

1. **Call to Order** (PC President, Greg Jolissaint) – 7:50 pm
2. **Opening Prayer** by Father Andy
3. **75-min Timekeeper Assignment/Volunteer** – Tom Lauer
4. **Roll Call/Establish Quorum** (Recording Secretary, Carolyn Sherman) – Quorum established.
5. The **December 2024 Minutes** were approved electronically following the PC meeting conducted at Church of the Resurrection.
6. **Approval of the PC Agenda** (PC President) – Cathy Parrish wanted to discuss new hymnals. Topic was approved for discussion.

7. **Special Presentation: Review of Resurrection Mid-Year Finances** Fr. Andy had reached out to staff accountants who, prior to the meeting, provided a mid-year report on expenses and a projection for the remainder of the Fiscal Year. The bottom line is that we are able to meet our mortgage payment each month and we expect to be able to cover all expenses. Mortgage payments are paid via Vision 20/20 funds (whether through on-going pledges, continuing payments after pledge has been completed, and/or new regular donations). On the provided spreadsheet, something called “the expansion fund” showed a healthy balance, but it was not clear how these monies could/would be used. **Greg Jolissaint and Father Andy will follow up with the parish accountants regarding the purpose of the “expansion fund,” how it can be used, and whether there are any restrictions for using the fund.**

8. **Pastor’s Report/Update**

a. **Church of the Resurrection finances**

*Does the parish have overdue/postponed maintenance and repairs (e.g. RSPS HVAC systems?)?

Fr. Andy reported that while there are no urgent maintenance issues at the school, plans are underway for replacing the RSPS HVAC system at a cost of about 120K. The current funding split between Church of the Resurrection and the RSPS is ~60/40 – it’s possible that the ratio may change. On a side note, St. Paul’s Church does contribute to staff salaries at the school, but not to maintenance and upkeep.

*How can the PC help Fr. Andy regarding our parish’s financial situation?

Fr. Andy noted that letters were sent to parishioners who have been here only the past two years – those who would not have been present for the Vision 20/20 campaign — asking them to consider donating.

Fr. Andy also noted that after his homily discussing Vision 2020 and the mortgage, he did see an uptick in contributions.

b. **Advent Review** (with Roy Harris)

*Roy noted that Fr. Andy had families light the Advent wreath at every Mass during every week of Advent (rather than just the first week of Advent, as was done in the past). This required extra planning on the part of the Liturgy Committee, but it seemed to be well received by parishioners.

*There were abundant opportunities for confessions!

*Christmas Decorations were in many places in the new spaces: in the Gathering Space, the Lobby, the Coffee Lounge, and in the Hall (Christmas Eve). Two new trees were donated by two individuals -- they were used in the Lobby and the Gathering space.

*The olive wood creche in the Gathering Space was donated by Fr. John.

((See CAM section for parishioner comments about decorations.))

- c. **Pastor's Installation Mass Review** (Roy Harris, Paul Reif). The Pastor's Installation Mass went very well, with Archbishop Lori presiding. There were 521 at mass, with 3 deacons from Resurrection also present. The Installation Mass was new to the Liturgy Committee; it was noted that Archbishop Lori has been doing more of these in the last 18 months.

9. **Review of December PC Committee Reports** – Corresponding Secretary, Lorraine Miano-Fike

- a. Children & Families Ministry; Sacramental Preparation (First Reconciliation & Communion) – Susan Yost. First Communion/Eucharist preparations begin in February. First Reconciliation was conducted in the fall.

b. Liturgy – Roy Harris, in conjunction with information provided by Cathy Hanks, gave an attendance overview. Christmas Eve/Day in the tent last year was about 2000. Christmas Eve/Day this year was about 3700 (plenty of attendees were standing in the church and in the Gathering Space, which was expected). Overall, we are at about 72% of pre-Covid numbers. This may be the new norm.

NOTE: there was some confusion about the rotation of committee reports. For the February 2025 meeting, we will return to the schedule published by the Corresponding Secretary, Lorraine Miano-Fike; reports will be requested from Adult Faith Formation (Kate Kleintank), K-5 Faith Formation (Susan Yost), and Youth Ministry (Shannon Turlik).

10. **Pastoral Council Business**

a. **Old Business**

1) Update – PC Bylaws (Greg Jolissaint, Gina Maclean): Work is in progress.

2) Update -- Location of dumpsters (Martin Fienkeng, Rick Murray)

Dumpsters do need to be moved, but we don't want it to cost prohibitive. Rick Murray and Martin Fienkeng will obtain estimates by March or April. Some work will probably be done by parishioners. Paul Reif noted to be sure to check with trash/recycling people to ensure their equipment has good access to the dumpsters at the new location.

3) Update – Diagram for setup of tables and chairs in the Coffee Lounge (Mary Reif): Done and posted.

4) Update – Coffee and Donuts (C&D) – Sharing the Opportunity (Mary Reif & PC President)

The Fellowship Committee "owns" the 1st weekend of each month for C&D. In continuing efforts to build community, Fr. Andy and the PC would like to see other

committees/parish organizations manage C&D (perhaps on the 3rd weekend of each month). Current outreach has not received much response. Fr. Andy will make appeals to committee and organization heads; Greg Jolissaint, as Pastoral Council President, will also make a similar appeal. Greg will also provide Fr. Andy with a listing of the Parish Committee and Organization Points of Contact.

Julie Winpisinger noted that Open Arms has reached out to host C&Ds, but no firm plans have been established for Open Arms to host this event.

Lorraine Miano-Fike suggested creating a SignUpGenius, showing both the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. Paul Reif, speaking on behalf of Mary Reif, said Mary would review the sign-up to see who needs training ahead of time. Someone made the excellent suggestion that the newbies shadow Mary on the C&D prior to their hosting weekend.

Comprehensive “how-to” lists will need to be published and made available to any group hosting the C&D event (how to make coffee, where and how many donuts to buy, etc.).

5) Update – Monitoring the Church Foyer & Hall during Masses (Martin Fienkeng) Work is in progress.

6) Update – Social Justice/SVdP advertising of items not covered by WIC/Food Stamps. **Carolyn Sherman will follow up on this.**

b. New Business

1) Review of Current Parish Recycling Efforts -- Sara Thomas (HSA), Julie Winpisinger (PC), and Colleen Guler (Sustainability Committee).

Sara Thomas noted that she had sent out a “way forward,” broad picture document for consideration and also shared that recycling at the school is more robust than anticipated.

Julie Winpisinger said that there is a recycling plan in place which needs to be rolled out slowly. There is a need to educate everyone using parish facilities on performing recycling correctly before rolling out new recycling containers, etc. For example, a pizza box with food residue can contaminate a whole bin. **Julie will provide more details on recycling plans at the February meeting.**

Colleen Guler, in an email, indicated that she and another person from the Sustainability Ministry of the Social Justice Committee plan to meet with parish committees to discuss recycling and the possibility of reducing waste during their events. Colleen hopes to have these discussions by the time Soup Supper Fridays are conducted during Lent.

2) Joint Pastoral Retreat Plan – Julie Winpisinger, CoR, and Jay Rowley, StP (date, time, location, ministry focus, food, etc.). The 2025 half-day retreat will be Saturday, 8 March, at St. Anthony’s Shrine. Julie will be disseminating additional details to the PC.

3) RSPS Annual Designer Bag Bingo: Friday, 24 January, in Cafeteria/Hall

4) Men’s Club Irish Gala: Saturday, 22 February, in the Hall

- 5) Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner Tuesday, 4 March, 4pm – 8pm, in the Hall (Men's Club with help from KofC)
- 6) Ash Wednesday, 5 March, 7:30 am, 5pm, and 7:30pm Masses
- 7) ACTS Women's Retreat: 6 – 9 March
- 8) Soup Suppers (formerly Fish Fridays) during Lent: 14 and 28 March, 11 April. Fellowship will host 14 March, the Social Justice Committee will be hosting on 28 March, and the Resurrection Knights of Columbus will host 11 April,.
- 9) Resurrection Knights of Columbus-hosted Parish Easter Egg Hunt will occur on Saturday April 12th starting at 10am (Rain Date Sunday April 13th in the afternoon)
- 10) Easter Triduum and Easter Sunday: April 17-20 (Thursday through Sunday)
- 11) ACTS Men's Retreat: 24-27 April
- 12) SSSMILE Village Dinner: 26 April
- 13) Fr. Andy spoke about Ray Milauskas' new Champions Initiative.
The first talk is Sunday, 2 February, 6:30pm to 8:00pm in the church, featuring parishioner Sean Fry.
- 14) On Tuesday, 11 February, at 7pm, well-known priest Fr. John Riccardo (The Rescue Project, "I Thirst," etc.) will be speaking at 7pm in the church. Registration to attend is recommended as this is being advertised throughout the entire archdiocese. He will also be addressing parish staff members at the Turf Valley Conference Center the next day.
- 15) Sara Thomas noted that the Pastorate Picnic will be held Sunday, 24 August, at Pavillion H of Centennial Park. Time TBD along with other details.

b. CAM Feedback (Dec 9 – Jan 19 Masses)

- There was considerable feedback from parishioners that church decorations at Christmas felt "sparse." A suggestion was made to consider consulting with parishioner Faith Fiocco (an accomplished interior designer) for next year (contact her by at least October). Some thought there should be some wreaths, perhaps by the Stations of the Cross, as well as trees somewhere inside the actual Nave church spaces.
- Insight on this year's decorations: the large creche which was formerly set up in front of the altar has some broken pieces (Joseph, for one), so it was not used this year. This was our first Christmas in the new spaces, so we are still figuring out aesthetics. Additionally, budget was limited this year.
- Large draft at Link Doors, Carolyn Sherman will follow up with Kevin Skerry and Dan Bredice.

- One parishioner was concerned there was no mention of Martin Luther King, Jr., in the 19 January Bulletin or during weekend Masses. A member of the Social Justice Committee may be submitting an MLK, Jr., article for the bulletin. The PC President noted that Inauguration Day fell on the same day as MLK, Jr., Day (creating quite a prioritization conflict for the community and for many churches).
- There were several comments regarding the sound quality in the church. The left wing of the church has a hard time hearing the cantor at the ambo, and the right wing has difficulty hearing the choir; in the Gathering Space, only the cantor near the choir can be heard (can't hear choir at all). **Carolyn Sherman will send to Stephen Lay for consideration.**
- We received good feedback from parishioners regarding the presentation of communal prayers on the Nave LED monitors.
- A parishioner suggested our parish have a Suggestion Box in the Gathering Space. Will not pursue, as it is believed that in-person feedback is best (which can be discussed with the CAM, a Priest, or a Deacon).
- People are still using the outdoor concrete stairs to reach the Link entrance when they should be using the Hall Handicapped Entrance on the ground level near the Hall Meeting Room. Original plans were to put large planters on those steps to discourage their use; in the meantime, **Brad Weiss will look at our existing sandwich board signs to see any can be used to guide people to the Hall entrance.** If/when a sign becomes available, we will contact Judy Comiskey to add this new sign to Youth Sacristan duties.

11. HSA Update (Sara Thomas) – Nothing to report.

12. Items Added to the Agenda (during agenda approval, item #6)

Cathy Parrish: Stephen Lay told the Choir there are plans to buy new hymnals since the current ones are at least 20 years old and out of date. The cost is \$30 per copy, and the plan is to purchase 800 total (a total cost of \$24K). To cover costs, Stephen is looking to have parishioners buy a copy or two – perhaps making book plates available for placement in the hymnal cover. We should not donate the old copies to other parishes due to their age. Cathy suggested that during last weekend of use, parishioners should be encouraged to take one home as a bit of memorabilia. Fr. Andy will be discussing these new hymnals and their purchase with Stephen. **Cathy will provide more updates in February.**

13. Items Recommended for Future PC Discussions: None

14. Closing Prayer by Greg Jolissaint.

15. Adjournment: 9:15 pm

16. Next PC Meetings:

Tuesday February 18, 6:15pm – 7:30pm, Center for New Evangelization, St. Paul

Tuesday March 18, 7:45pm – 9:00 pm, Resurrection Large Conference Room

Notes respectfully submitted by Carolyn Sherman, Recording Secretary