

MINUTES

Name	Present
Fr. Andrew Vogel	X
Bill Fitzpatrick, Trustee	X
Karen Kohlmeyer, Cemetery Trustee	X
Mary Mell, Member	X
Jean Meyer, Chair	X
Mike Moriarty, Trustee	X
Kathy Sexauer, Member	A
Debi Shuda, Parish Staff Bookkeeper / Volunteer Youth Coordinator	X

Opening Prayer

Accept previous meeting minutes: Motion by Mary, seconded by Mike. Carried.

1. Pastor's Report

- a. Upcoming Events:
 - St. Mary's – Advent Study Group on Mondays with Fr. Mike
- b. Upcoming Trips/Sessions:
 - Fr. will be gone Thanksgiving through Saturday
 - Fr. will attend Spiritual Direction – HIM Retreat in Irene, SD from December 29th through January 2nd.
 - September 6-19, 2026, Fr. will be leading a Pilgrimage: The Camino Walk through Europe.
 - August, 2026, Fr was asked to help with World Youth Day the first weeks of August.
- c. Upcoming Responsibilities:
 - Fr. wondered if St. Patrick's would like to place kneelers at the front altar area for those receiving communion who would like to kneel to receive.
 - **Action:** The Arts & Environment committee will look into and report back
 - **Update:** It was determined that there is not enough space at the front of the aisles for the placement of kneelers too. Will consider again at another time.
 - Fr. and Jean to educate Eucharistic Ministers on where they can stand (front of right altar) to obtain host and cup. **Update:** EM training and pizza will be on Tuesday, November 25th following Mass.
 - **Discussion** on Mass on Christmas Day or Christmas Eve. Those present were split in which was preferred. Fr. will reflect on possibility and Jean will send an email out to all Parish Council to seek their agreement on which Mass.
 - **Update:** Email to Council: Fr. was able to reach out to St. Mary's regarding Masses during Christmas. Here would be the two choices for us to make: Have Mass on Christmas Day at 8:00 am and not on Christmas Eve at 6 pm or Have Mass on Christmas Eve at 6:00 pm as currently scheduled My thoughts regarding having on Christmas Day – would 8am be too early due to singing prior to Mass? Please respond to this email on your vote. Thank you!
 - Due to the short timeframe for making any changes this Christmas season, the full parish council determined that no changes would be made this year. If we want to change for the 2026 Christmas Mass, then we should survey the parishioners in October to see their preferences.

2. Parish Finances

- a. Presentation of Financial Reports: Debi

Debi presented the Ameriprise numbers are off currently. She will be reviewing to reconcile. The Audit Report is complete and rated as 'successful'.

There were a few coding and withholding reporting that will need to be addressed in the future. Debi will work with the Diocese.

Motion to accept: by Mike and seconded by Karen. Carried.

3. Parish Outreach/Environment: Jean

- a. Parish Outreach:
 - Current community outreach:
 - None
 - Needs of parishioners:

- Fr. continues to visit shut-ins and the sick. Recently visited with Richard Becker at Houston Nursing Home.

b. Parish Environment:

- Décor: Starting November 30th Advent Season -- Purple/Violet

c. Events:

4. Hall Cleaning and Mowing/Snow Removal: **No reports provided.**

a. Butch's Updates:

- Update: LED lighting in Parish Hall
 - Butch reported that Steve Colsch suggested that the replacement start at the Bathrooms & Kitchen. **Council agreed.**
- Report:

5. Buildings and Grounds: **No reports provided.**

- Report:
- Cemetery Grounds -- Butch reported that there are trees overgrown at the Cemetery and he would like to cut them back. Council agreed, however, and requested that another person be with him when doing so.

UPDATE:

a. Donations:

b. Other:

6. Faith Formation: (Debi)

a. Confirmation student report: 2026: 3 students 9th Grade and 2 students 10th Grade

b. First Communion student report: 1 student @ Crucifixion

c. Youth Activities:

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d. Generations of Faith:

- 2025-2026 Schedule: September 24, 2025 / October 22, 2025 / November 19, 2025 / January 28, 2026 / February 25, 2026 / March 25, 2026
- Living a Moral Life (10 Commandments)

7. Cemetery: (Karen)

- a. Cemetery Policy -- Discussions for a Policy have begun. More updates and information will be provided in future meetings.
- b. Cemetery Boundaries -- more information to come
- c. Cemetery fence replacement -- more information to come

ACTION: Fr. Vogel and Karen have started to work together on each of the above areas.

8. Other:

a. **Christmas Season Mass Schedule:**

December 24th

St. Mary's 4:00 pm

St. Patrick's 6:00 pm

St. Mary's 9:00 pm

December 25th

St. Mary's 9:30 am

December 31st

St. Mary's 5:10 pm

St. Patrick's 7:00 pm

b. **Parish Directory -- 2026.** Approval to look into and get scheduled

Discussion: St. Mary's had their Directory completed in 2025 using Shutterfly. Ellen Garder lead the project. Shutterfly costs were \$13/book. Parishioners were able to submit pictures for the book. Ellen was able to format pictures for the book for committees, etc.

ACTION: Jean will work on getting pricing from Universal Church Directories company and will seek out a parishioner who would lead the project.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 6:00 pm
Tuesday, November 24, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Closing Prayer/ Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Bill and seconded by Karen