

St. Mary Catholic Church  
Pastoral Council Minutes  
January 15, 2026

Mary Bailey chaired the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm in the CCC. Members present: Mary Bailey, Mary Luedke, Mike Orłowski, Pete Pintens, Jayne Boebel and Father Aloysius. Members absent: Kari Selhofner, Jeff Walker, Deacon Dave and Doug Duchac. Others present: Laura Reiter, Sandy Bishop and Tom Oscar.

Father Aloysius began the meeting with a prayer.

The Parish Mission Statement was read.

Mary B. invited comments on the last minutes (November 20). There were no comments. Mary B. motioned to approve the minutes. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Staff reports: Distributed, but not reviewed or discussed.

Small Groups:

-Parish Transformation Team: Sandy Bishop gave an update on recent team meetings. Team has been working on deepening their understanding of Bishop Power's Pastoral Letter on Evangelization and discerning the implications of moving from Maintenance to Mission within our cluster. We need to take advantage of the many resources available on the Diocesan website. There was a Governance and Goal setting training in Hayward on January 13. Some individuals went in person while others attended via zoom. The morning session was on the updated Articles and By-laws. The afternoon session concentrated on the Appreciative Inquiry Process for parish goal setting. Tom stated the importance of following the guidelines closely due to legal issues that may arise. Mary B. reiterated the importance of always having Transformation Mission information on the agendas. Father Aloysius mentioned having annual cluster meetings to share and collaborate on ideas and resources. He added that small parishes don't always have new members to replace council members. Sandy remarked that one of our goals might be how we can share resources among clusters. Sandy additionally gave everyone Pillar IV checklists to be filled out and turned into Laura one week prior to next meetings. Staff/Corporate board/Finance council members are included in this assignment. The guidance is that if you don't know leave it blank. Be honest and candid. Laura will present a summary without names on it. In April we will have a large group session in the evening in which we will cover the checklist, share brainstorming and start goal planning. We should leave that meeting with 3-4 goals declared. It is due to the Diocese by May 14. Father Aloysius will select 1 Maintenance goal and 2-3 Mission goals. We may also have a couple of cluster goals. We will continue with quarterly follow-up thereafter. Tom remarked that we accomplished a lot of good things last year. Now how does it lead us forward? Sandy declared that the Evangelization Team would be in hiatus while we are working on the Transformation goals.

- The Welcome Home Team: Sandy said that the team has started a seasonal reading/worship aid. The intention is not to create more work for the staff. It will be a nice resource for parishioners and visitors. The teaching Mass will be on February 8. This team will also take a pause until the new goals are determined. They will be looking for direction from that plan.

-Dick Huseby book sharing: Tom mentioned that they have started a new phase with a new family-oriented book. The table discussions have been very good.

-Second Thursday Prayer Group: Father Aloysius stated that he and Jeff joined Chris for this past meeting. Jayne mentioned that when she recently saw Chris after Mass she asked her how it went. Chris said it was a lovely get together! Tom mentioned that calling each name from the prayer list of the sick in the bulletin is a nice thing. Sandy commented that it usually takes time to gain participants when new groups are formed.

-Deacon Dave Adult server training update: Mike stated that we had 1 more adult trained and another is waiting for training. Training only takes 10 minutes. Also great to see some younger adults training. Father Aloysius added that Deacon Dave additionally teaches at the altar as needed during Mass.

- Church Security Update: Father Aloysius said to read Jan's message in the reports. Tracy will put in the bulletin.

-Feast Day for Mary (September 8): Mary B. mentioned that this will continue to be on the agendas for now. Mary L. suggested that in honor of Pope Leo XIV proclaiming that the New Jubilee Year will honor St. Francis of Assisi, we should think about celebrating with a potluck, or something similar, at our St. Francis-pier Willow location.

-Portable T. V. Update: Father Aloysius said that there was an issue with enabling Bluetooth. Sandy added that John Ramsey is helping with that. More discussion to come.

-CCC Chairs: Mary B. Stated that there was no new information. Although it was brought up that Grace Lutheran may have possible samples.

-Teaching Mass: Sandy informed us that there is an upcoming meeting on January 20th for this. It will be part of the Family Mass on February 8. Jan is working on the program.

-Expanding the Exposure of the Council and Interactions with the Parish Community: Sandy mentioned having speakers at Mass and posting the minutes more broadly. Mary L. suggested having monthly Parish Council Member Sundays. Father Aloysius said that a chairperson could address a few bullet points toward the end of Mass. He added to make it a routine. He is not sure people are seeing the agendas/minutes at the back of the church. Mike added to make sure the message is welcoming. Mary L. concluded that we should keep it short and that we should have someone at the back of the church also to answer questions. She also volunteered to do the first one.

-New Business: Laura announced that Doug Duchac has stepped down as trustee. Pete Pintens has been appointed by Father Aloysius to replace him.

-Other Business:

-Mary B. had a parishioner express confusion when there are too many EMs up front for Mass. Laura will bring this up at the next staff meeting.

- Mary B. additionally stated that parishioners were asking for a Vigil Mass at St. Mary's for Holy Days. Father Aloysius disclosed that he follows the schedule that was made prior to his relocation here. Laura commented that it would be addressed at the next Calendar and Planning session with the staff.

-Mary B. Suggested that a Conversion of Souls petition be added to every Mass. All agreed that it would be a good idea.

Mary L. led the closing prayer.