

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
August 12, 2025

**AT-LARGE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** John Bedel, Judi Blank, Mikey Disbennett, Bridget Eichhold, Mike Essen, Alan Gerken, Karen Hultquist, Jim Macke, Greg Niehaus, Dennis Wiwi

**AT-LARGE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Gina Leraneth, Brian Linnemann

**CLERGY IN ATTENDANCE:** Fr. Andrew Umberg

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Donna Frazee

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Mike Essen

**OPENING PRAYER:** Karen Hultquist

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS PASTORAL COUNCIL (PC) MEETING MINUTES:**

Brigid Eichhold made a motion to approve the June 2025 meeting minutes. She was seconded by Dennis Wiwi. Motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) **Introductions of Term Year 2028 Members:** Incoming at-large members John Bedel, Jim Macke, Greg Niehaus, and Dennis Wiwi were introduced and welcomed to Council.
- 2) **Annual Stricker's Grove Parish Picnic:** The annual parish picnic at Stricker's Grove is scheduled for the evening of September 5. PC members host a Welcome table at the park entrance during the first 2 hours of the event. Mike Essen asked those interested in volunteering to email him by the end of the week so that he could give a headcount to the parish office.
- 3) **Pickle Ball/Tennis Courts:** Recent inspection of the St. Ignatius courts has identified safety concerns, so the courts are now closed until further notice. The resurfacing done last summer was a short-term fix that did not last as long as hoped for. Estimates for a proper renovation could likely run around \$35,000. Fr. Umberg is evaluating whether a renovation or a complete repurposing of the space would make the most sense long-term.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1) **Pastoral Council Recording Secretary:** Incoming Recording Secretary Nancy Brunemann will come on board in November.

**PASTOR'S REMARKS:**

- 1) **Construction Project Planning Committee Update:** Fr. Umberg continues to work on assembling a committee to support the research and development of a parish building plan. He is envisioning a group of about 12 individuals, from various parish constituencies. Three PC members volunteered to represent Council on the committee: John Bedel, Jim Macke, and Dennis Wiwi. Bridget Eichhold, who is a St. Ignatius teacher, volunteered to be one of the school staff members on the committee.

Major parish needs include: a Gathering Space, additional gym space, additional meeting rooms for church/school-related activities, and worship space improvements. However, with construction costs as high as they are, building options are quite challenging, and feasibility may limit what we are able to do.

- 2) **Sanctuary Steps Construction Project:** Construction began this week on elongating the 2 sets of shorter steps on either side of the sanctuary. This will enlarge the overall area of the sanctuary floor and remove a fall hazard.
- 3) **Parish Staff Updates:** Fr. David Tran will become the Director of Worship, effective in September. Doug Donoghue will continue as a Coordinator of Music alongside Patty Stretch, as well as remaining a teacher on school staff. Mr. Donoghue will also continue to play and lead the music group at the 10:15 am Sunday Mass. Chris Denman has come on board as the Coordinator of Communications. Rebecca Finn will be leaving parish staff for another opportunity, and Maureen Reis will be going part-time.
- 4) **Exterior Manger Scene:** The parish has purchased large (6') crib figures for an exterior manger scene that will be introduced at Christmas. Plans are underway to construct a wooden stable. The manger scene will likely be located on the north side of the church.
- 5) **Storage Options:** With storage space at a premium in every building, Fr. Umberg and staff are looking into options and locations on campus for external storage structures. Steel storage buildings or refurbished shipping containers are possible solutions. They would likely be mounted on concrete pads. A potential location for them would be in the undeveloped area next to the batting cages.
- 6) **Potential Auction/Raffle Idea:** Fr. Umberg has been approached about creating auctions or raffles for a Designated Parking Spot and for a Family Reserved Pew for Christmas Mass. Discussion this evening favored the raffle format. Fr. Umberg will continue weighing the idea.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Jim Macke

**NEXT MEETING:** September 2, 2025, at 7:00 pm, in the School Library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Frazee  
Pastoral Council Recording Secretary