

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 2, 2025

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

AT-LARGE MEMBERS ABSENT: Mikey Disbennett, Brian Linnemann

CLERGY IN ATTENDANCE: Angie Heisel, Jen Smith, Fr. David Tran, Fr. Andrew Umberg

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Donna Frazee

CALL TO ORDER: President Mike Essen

OPENING PRAYER: John Bedel

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS PASTORAL COUNCIL (PC) MEETING MINUTES:

Karen Hultquist made a motion to approve the August 2025 meeting minutes. She was seconded by Dennis Wiwi. Motion passed unanimously.

SCHOOL REPORT:

Principal Heisel reported.

- 1) First Week and Safety Review:** The tragic shooting at a Minneapolis school Mass on August 27 overshadowed an otherwise smooth first week back for St. Ignatius School. Mrs. Heisel and Fr. Umberg stressed that they are constantly looking at ways to make safety protocols even stronger. Within the last couple of years, the school building windows were coated with tinted, bullet-resistant film. Over the last month, we had some of this film installed on the Loyola Hall windows and the parish office windows, including those where the school children attend Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. During school Masses, the church doors are locked, with staff stationed there to let worshippers in as needed. Mrs. Heisel has been in talks with Green Township and with other school principals, gathering information to evaluate options for on-campus security (dedicated resource officer, retired law enforcement, etc.). Fr. Umberg and Mrs. Heisel will continue to research and solidify a plan.
- 2) Enrollment and Tuition 2025-26:** Total enrollment stands at 1180 Preschool-8. Elementary enrollment for Kindergarten-8 is 1064. Tuition K-8 is \$5370, up approximately \$100 from last year.
- 3) SGO Funds:** St. Ignatius' Scholarship Granting Organization Fund received just under \$100,000 in donations for this year. Families who do not qualify for state EdChoice Scholarships may apply for grants from this fund.
- 4) Annual 8th Grade Trip to Washington D.C.:** The 8th graders are fundraising in preparation for their trip to Washinton, D.C., scheduled to take place in early October.
- 5) Host Families for French Students Needed:** Families of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are being asked to consider hosting a French student from the Lycée Notre-Dame Saint-Sigisbert, which is St. Ignatius' sister school in Nancy, France. Saint-Sigisbert usually sends around 30 students to spend a couple of weeks learning about life in Cincinnati and at St. Ignatius. The annual visit will occur in mid-October.

- 6) **Upcoming Events:** Raffle 365, the school's primary fundraiser, kicks off next week. Also next week, the school will celebrate the canonizations of Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) **IggyFest Parking Feedback:** The 2025 Festival was held on August 22-24. Feedback on parking during the event identified some issues, including: difficulty finding handicapped spots, lack of traffic direction on the lots, and safety representation on the lots, particularly after sundown. Currently, there is not a group responsible for organizing and supervising event parking. Fr. Umberg will review the feedback and consider requesting additional assistance from Green Township police for next year.
- 2) **Ticket Pricing for Festival Main Award Raffle:** A question was raised about ticket pricing guidelines for the Main Award Raffle. Fr. Umberg will follow up on this.
- 3) **Meeting Minutes Approval Process:** There was brief discussion this evening about revising the PC meeting minutes approval process. Currently, the minutes for a given month are reviewed and approved by vote at the next month's meeting, so there is a one-month delay in getting official minutes posted to parish media. It was suggested that an "approval-by email" process might shorten the time lag. However, Fr. Umberg prefers to continue the current format, which follows Robert's Rules of Order for public meetings, so there will be no change to the process.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) **Annual Stricker's Grove Parish Picnic:** The annual parish picnic at Stricker's Grove is scheduled for the evening of September 5. Mike Essen is still looking for a few more PC members to help host the Welcome Table at the park entrance during the first 2 hours of the event.

PASTOR'S REMARKS:

- 1) **IggyFest 2025:** Beautiful weather all weekend encouraged great turnout. Preliminary estimates look to be close to last year's record profit. Receipts are still coming in for expenses, so a final net is yet to be determined. Mary Dadosky and Jen Smith will provide a final report at the October meeting.
- 2) **Construction Project Planning Update:** Fr. Umberg did a "soft walk-around" the parish grounds with a contractor and an architect that he knows, in order to talk through some of his ideas regarding a building expansion. Their guesstimate on construction costs was around \$6-8 million, with a timeline of 3-4 years from the start of fundraising through completion of construction.
Discussion this evening centered on the long-term usefulness of the Ignatius Center property across the street. Fr. Umberg introduced the idea of selling the property and using the profits, with additional reserve funding, to lease modular units that could be put up on parish grounds for temporary ministry, classroom, and storage space until the permanent building addition is completed. Accordingly, **a motion was introduced to recommend that Fr. Umberg investigate the selling of the Ignatius Center property for the purpose of using the profits, with additional reserve funding, to lease modular units that would provide**

APPROVED AT THE 10/7/25 MEETING

temporary on-site programming and storage space during the fundraising and construction phases of a building campaign. All of the 7 PC members present at the time the motion was put forward voted in the affirmative. Several members emphasized the importance of clear communication of the process to the parish.

CLOSING PRAYER: Bridget Eichhold

NEXT MEETING: October 7, 2025, at 7:00 pm, in the School Library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Frazee
Pastoral Council Recording Secretary