

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PASTORAL COUNCIL FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2026

AT-LARGE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: John Bedel, Judy Blank, Mickey Disbennett, Bridget Eichhold, Mike Essen, Alan Gerken, Karen Hultquist, Gina Leranthe, Brian Linneman, Jim Macke, Dennis Wiwi

AT-LARGE MEMBERS ABSENT: Greg Niehaus

CLERGY IN ATTENDANCE: Fr. Andrew Umberg

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Jen Wiesman, AA President, Nancy Brunemann

CALL TO ORDER: President Mike Essen

OPENING PRAYER: Fr. Umberg

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS PASTORAL COUNCIL (PC) MEETING MINUTES:

- Jim Macke made a motion to approve the February, 2026 PC meeting minutes. He was seconded by Gina Leranthe. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1 Upcoming Pastoral Council Elections

- **Pastoral Council Elections:** Mike provided a review of the upcoming Council elections which is now set for the weekend of May 22nd. Gina is working to gather all pertinent supplies needed for the election. A Pastoral Council member will speak prior to each Mass the weekend of March 21st to provide a brief introduction to what it means to serve on the Pastoral Council.
- **PC Vice President Elections:** More details regarding the election of the VP for next year will take place at the April meeting.

2 Athletic Association Update from Jen Wiesman:

- **Overview** Jen opened her remarks with a very heartfelt statement that addressed the importance of the athletic opportunities for all of St. Ignatius' students. She commended the athletes for reflecting their faith both on and off the field. The school's athletic programs are to be complimented with over 800 students participating in various sports and the nearly 550 volunteers who provide selfless commitment in some capacity to make each season successful. She graciously thanked the many sports coordinators and other parent volunteers who serve as the backbone of the organization.
- **Athletic Scholarship Opportunity** Jen briefly discussed the establishment of a St. Ignatius Athletic Scholarship that would provide high school tuition assistant to a current 8th grader. More details to follow on this new initiative as they become available..
- **Securing Safe Facility Space for Sporting Events** The Athletic Association is currently working to finalize the organization's budget for the next school year. Revenue sources include annual family membership fees, pay to play sports charges

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and concession revenue. One of the primary expense items in the budget is the amount spent (\$40,000-50,000) to secure safe sporting facilities (fields and courts) beyond the borders of the St. Ignatius campus. This is due, primarily, to the existing space constraints on our campus.

- **Athletic Participation and the Weekly Mass Celebration** Jen commented on the factors and challenges that impact a family's schedule and their ability to celebrate the weekly Mass. Fr. Umberg expanded on this topic with some comments regarding the upcoming Youth Athletic Charter slated to take effect on August 1, 2026. Details on the specifics of this change are unclear at this time. Jen is actively working to clarify and details will be communicated at a later date.

PASTOR'S REMARKS:

- **Changing of the Guard:** As a review, the June meeting will be Mike's final meeting as President. We will also welcome 4 newly elected PC members at this meeting.
- **Doughnut Update:** The parish has secured a new doughnut vendor for our doughnut Sunday events. We will now be working with the new owner of Regina Bakery.
- **Staff Update:** George Gillespie has resigned his position as the Adult Faith Formation coordinator. The Parish office has already begun a search for his replacement.
- **The Easter Season Celebrations:** Fr. Umberg reviewed his intentions for seasonal decorations for Holy Week. This includes his efforts on a new Easter Sunday antependia and possibly one for Palm Sunday as well. He invited the Pastoral Council members to participate in the Holy Thursday tradition of washing of the feet during the Mass service that evening.

NEXT MEETING: April 7, 2026 at 7:00 PM in the School Library

CLOSING PRAYER: Fr. Umberg

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Brunemann
Pastoral Council Recording Secretary