

Pastoral Council Meeting
October 14, 2026
Agenda

Present:

Absent:

We will take a group photo at the October 14th meeting for the HRP Pastoral Council Website

Documents Reviewed at this meeting:

- *Holy Redeemer Parish Pastoral Council Charter, 2026*
- *Cast Into the Deep 2.0 Flyer*

Documents provided at this meeting:

- HRP Annual Financial Report 2025
- HRP Annual Financial Report 2026
- 2025/2026 Comparison of Annual Report Information
- 2026 Grand Rapids Diocese Annual Report from Faith Grand Rapids Magazine, October 2026, p. 18
- 2026 CSA Campaign Report from GRD CSA Campaign Website (https://view.flipdocs.com/?ID=10001746_756683)

1) Opening Prayer

- a) Holy Spirit Prayer (Group)
- b) Lectio Divina *Scripture* (8-10 minutes)

2) Approve Meeting Minutes from September 9, 2026

3) Father Victor Agenda Items

- a) **Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Election**
 - i) Both positions will be for a *2-year term of service*;
 - ii) Eligible members; Francisco Henriquez, Jim Hulst, Lisa O'Connell, John Pitsch, ~~Mary Lou Hall~~

4) Action Items

- a) Meeting Minutes for Website
 - i) AI will not be used to generate or edit meeting minutes as recommended by Sally Bosch, HRP Communications
 - ii) PC agendas, minutes and Leadership minutes are now posted on the HRP PC Website

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- iii) A Link to the PC website will be published in Flocknote, Friday, October 16, 2026
- iv) We will add today's photo of council members to the PC website for Friday
- b) Open meetings to begin for parishioners?
 - i) December 2026?
 - ii) Name Tags
 - (1) Thank you Lisa O'Connell for distributing name tags to the council members.
Those who have not received their yet, the nametags are in your ministry folder along with your new PC handbook.

5) Report Items

- a) Electronic Bulletin Boards
 - (1) Stewardship is working on this
- b) **Safety and Security Update**
 - i) Jim Hulst and John Pitsch
 - ii) Need to have a report out date

6) New Comments

- a) Would anyone be interested in holding PC meetings earlier?
 - i) Second Friday of the month after 8:30am Mass?
 - (1) Concern about new PC members may need to work during the day
 - (a) Check with Francisco, Dorothy, and Elaine
- b) How was the Installation Mass for Fr. Victor with Bishop Walkowiak?
- c) How was the Fatima Event held on Tuesday, October 13th?

7) Annual Financial Reports 2025/2026

- a) These documents provide information regarding our parish
 - i) Our role is to be "eyes and ears" of parish to be effective representatives of our parishioners.
 - ii) These documents can be used for future goal setting and parish planning.
 - iii) The documents also include Sacramental data.
 - (1) There were 10 weddings in 2026 (Annual Report 2026).
 - (2) Can wedding announcements be added to the bulletin?
 - iv) Finance, Stewardship and staff are working on closing \$30,000 gap
 - (1) CSA Gap Closure meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 6:00 in Fireplace Room
 - (a) Who would like to represent Pastoral Council at these meetings?

8) Parishioner Concerns

- a) Any concerns or comments received from parishioners to council members?
 - i) One new family with young children living in Jenison switched to St. Thomas the Apostle due to feeling “unwelcome”, and religious education program was unknown
 - (1) Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Holly Champoux (Diocesan Representative of the CGS programs) from Prince of Peace Parish works with Fr. Lam Li
 - (a) 30 parishes out of 79 parishes participate in this program and the program is growing fast
 - (b) Program promotes a relationship with Jesus, not just memorization of a textbook
 - (c) They are using this same program for adults in OCIA
 - (i) Would you, along with the pastoral council and the director of religious education be interested in attending a 1-hour meeting to learn about the program and what is involved?
 - (ii) Holly is available on Wednesday, October 28 for a 1-hour meeting and tour at Prince of Peace parish in Muskegon between the hours of 11am and 3pm
 - ii) According to the Annual Financial report data HRP has had a 6-household increase over the past year.
 - (1) 1017 households in 2025 (2025 Annual Report, p. 2, pp1)
 - (2) 1023 households in 2026 (October 11, 2026 HRP bulletin, p. 3)
 - (3) Critical for understanding for Pastoral Council goal setting, parish planning and future Catholic formation

9) Review Calendar

- a) **Wednesday, November 11, 2026 *Cast Into the Deep 2.0*** (Flyer)
 - i) All day event, Mass at 8:30 at St. Andrew Cathedral
 - ii) Main Event 9:30 – 4:30 pm at Cathedral Square Center
 - iii) Could this be a substitute for the November 11th PC meeting?
 - iv) Will the parish be sending a representative? (Fr. will be unavailable)
- b) **Wednesday, May 5, 2027, Next Leadership Meeting**
 - i) Previously, Leadership Councils met monthly. Now we are meeting twice/year, and the next meeting in May 2027 is 8 months from last meeting in September 2026. That’s a long time to go without knowing what is going on in other councils

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10) Topics for Future Meetings

- a) Invite Faith Formation Directors for Updates (Marija Bilic and Amy Fleck)
- b) Items A-E in our Pastoral Council Charter
- c) Conduct a SWOT Analysis
- d) Parish Survey
- e) Recommend goals and objectives for the Parish
 - i) Short-term goals
 - ii) Long-term goals

11) Closing Prayer: The Prayer to St. Michael

Next Meeting is Wednesday, November 11, in the Fireplace room after the 6:30 pm Mass.