Saint Matthew Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Date/Time: Tuesday, October 13, 2026 | 7:00–8:30 p.m.
Location: Banquet Room

☒	**Fr. Pat Cahill, President**	☒	Tanya Eaton, St. Matthew School Principal
☐	David Scibor, Chairperson (excused)	☒	Diane Kiradjieff, Director of Faith Formation
☒	MacKenzie Keebler, Vice Chairperson	☒	Antoinette Usher, Chief Operating Officer
☒	Joe Linus, Secretary	☒	Peggy Peterson, Finance Council Liaison
☒	Sharon Doerer	☒	Madeline Olander, Youth Representative
☒	David Piho	☐	
☒	David Turner	☐	
☒	Scott Kennedy	☐	
☒	Anne Ibekwe	☐	
☐	Michael Martin (excused)	☐	
☐	Liliana Salas		<u>Guests:</u>
☐	Alexa Warner (excused)	☒	Kevin Mikus (alternate)
☒	Edwin Francis	☒	Bri Bernoski, Director of Adult Formation and Family Programs
☒	Vernon Roberts	☐	
☒	Jim Kelley	☐	
☐	Tom Barry (excused)	☐	

1. Opening

- Opening prayer led by David Turner

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Vernon Roberts moved to approve the previous meeting minutes.
- Dave Piho seconded the motion.
- The motion carried.

3. Parish Council Icebreaker

Members encouraged to connect with at least one person you have not yet met prior to our next meeting in November. It could be a phone call, a cup of coffee, or perhaps attending daily Mass together. Intent is to come to know not only what each person brings to the council, but also the person behind the role.

4. Next Steps in the Parish Plan

Father Cahill provided several updates:

- Priests will be on retreat next week at Lake Junaluska. A communion service led by the Deacons will be offered in place of daily mass
- Discussed the impacts of the pending Waxhaw separation on our thinking about the Pastoral Plan.
- Currently 12,000 families. Assuming one third align to Waxhaw, what does an 8,000 family parish look like. The parish was about that size when Fr Cahill was here in his first assignment.
- Noted that the staff size is currently small relative to the size of the parish in terms of registered families, in addition to having two campuses.
- New parish boundaries are being discussed. The Waxhaw parish will largely consist of what is now within the existing St Matthew boundaries but the eastern boundary with Our Lady of Lourdes will also be reset.
- Progressing toward 7/1/27 start date for the new parish.

MacKenzie encouraged Council members to be fluent in being able to discuss the Pastoral Plan with parishioners and offered a 30-second summary as follows:

"The Parish Plan is our roadmap for where St. Matthew is headed over the next six years. A big focus is helping more people encounter Christ through discipleship and evangelization while creating more opportunities to connect and build community beyond Sunday Mass. It also includes facility and technology improvements, expanding the columbarium and prayer garden, supporting families, and helping with the Waxhaw transition. Ultimately, it's about growing in faith and community while preparing for the future."

Vernon proposed having PC members present a brief intro of the Pastoral Plan at mass or a by a video.

5. Evangelical Catholic Partnership

Bri Bernoski provided an update:

- Evangelical Catholic representative (Josh Dart) has been meeting with staff as well as Jim Kelley and David Scibor
- Bri and Father Cahill will be meeting with Josh on a regular basis going forward.
- Next steps will be 'Reach More' (small groups)
- Frameworks of Spiritual Life, Community, and Mission

6. Commission Updates, Assignments

Members to reconnect and plan to meet with their ministries with report out by December

MacKenzie will connect with the new members to present the Commissions and align them with their preference.

7. Finance Council Update

- With the early date of this month's PC meeting, there has been no Finance Council meeting since our last update. Peggy will update on both September and October at our November PC meeting.

8. Parish Staff Spotlight

- Brianna Bernosky, Director of Adult Faith Formation and Family Programs
- Had previously been director of Middle School formation
- Moved to Charlotte in 2002 (4th grade) and joined St Matthew with her family.
- Previously worked in Diocese of Charleston as missionary with LifeTeen and was most recently at Our Lady of Grace.
- Plans for a 'Saints in procession' on 11/1 at the 9:00 and 10:45 masses
- 1 year old named Rosemary

9. Additional Items/Open Discussion

- New Youth Representative: Madeline Olander. Madeline joined the parish in 2018 (4th grade) after relocating to Charlotte with her family from Chicago. Senior at Ardrey Kell. One twin brother and one younger brother, a Freshman at AK.
- Recommended Action: Holy Hour by each member of the parish council with invitation to invite someone outside the council to join you.
- Scott Kennedy will be leaving the Council to focus on Diaconate Formation.
- Kevin Mikus (current Alternate) will assume Scott's place as a voting Member on the Council.
- Father Cahill will select a new Alternate at the November meeting.

10. Closing

- Closing prayer by Scott Kennedy

Next parish council meeting will be on November 17, 2026 in the Banquet Room.