

Holy Trinity Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2026

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance: PPC President Malcolm McCluskey; PPC Vice President Frank Butler; Fr. Kevin Gillespie, Pastor; Judith Bunnell; John Czajka; Roly Diaz; Jim Hennessey; Rob Johansson; Colleen Kennedy; Eric Nicoll; Jacqui Pascal; Paul Ravenscroft; Pat Towell.

The Opening Prayer was offered by John Czajka

Welcome and Introductions: Malcolm McCluskey convened the meeting and highlighted the Council's ongoing focus on synodality and employing the Jesuit Presupposition.

Parishioners Open Forum: Several members of the parish community and parish staff joined the meeting to provide a summary and lead discussion about the January 24 in-person parish listening gathering on Women in Ministry in the Church. The gathering was an opportunity to listen to one another on this important topic in a facilitated process. This was timely considering the December 4th publication of a letter from the Vatican Commission on the Women's Diaconate containing its initial report commissioned by Pope Francis and recently received by Pope Leo. Approximately 80 parishioners participated in the facilitated listening session with circles, many expressing disappointment and frustration with the Commission's letter. The PPC was provided an in-depth summary of the January 24 dialogue and examples of parishioner remarks.

Members of the PPC and parishioners joining the Open Forum held a lengthy discussion including current parish initiatives and possible additional actions. Many parishioners are expected to participate in the May 2026 50th Anniversary Women's Ordination Conference.

The parish community will continue discernment in this area. A report of the January 24 dialogue will be made available to all parishioners.

Pastor's Report: Father Gillespie provided the PPC with updates on several topics including:

- The parish is planning several initiatives leading up to the celebration of the 175th anniversary of the primary church building, which will take place on June 13. The History Committee is engaged in this planning.
- Fr. Gillespie and Ashley Klick, Pastoral Associate for Social Justice, continue to participate in an Immigration Committee meeting led by Cardinal McElroy and Catholic leaders across the archdiocese. The Committee is focused on numerous areas of support for migrants including direct assistance, legal, education and other forms of accompaniment. Holy Trinity's Migrant Familia is an example that other parishes may emulate.
- Father Jim Martin, S.J. will be publishing a new book, *Work in Progress*, and will be invited to speak about the book at Holy Trinity.
- Father Gillespie reported on damage to the parish building sustained during the late January snow, sleet and ice storm and recognized parish staff who responded.

Old Business:

- Discussion regarding proposed updates to the PPC bylaws has concluded. Judith Bunnell reviewed a set of recommended changes to the bylaws. The PPC discussed the impact on the operations of the PPC and then approved the recommendations. The next step will be to incorporate the recommendations into revised bylaws for implementation.
- Tom Favret, Managing Director of Parish Operations, led an extensive discussion on a formal review of church security being conducted with support from outside security experts. Recommendations to enhance the security of parishioners, ministers and celebrants at masses in the church are under development. Tom will have follow up discussion with PPC members.
- The minutes of the January meeting were approved by the PPC.

New Business:

- Jim Hennessy discussed the February 22 new parishioner orientation and urged PPC members to participate. He also mentioned the March 15th

Twelfth Night celebration of St. Patrick's Day. Finally, Jim mentioned that PPC elections are coming up in June and that there will be three openings.

- The next meeting will be held on March 18 at 7:00 p.m.

The Closing Prayer was offered by Paul Ravenscroft.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.