



**St. Ann Catholic Church Pastoral Council**  
**November 18, 2024**  
**7:00 – 9:00 PM**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Members:** Father Peter Grace, Richard Boyd, Laci Conrad, Francisco Cucue-Campos, Tom Hartley, Hatciri Lopez, Anne Miller, Dean Penny, Lori Power, Stephanie Satkowiak, DJ Venne, Marina Guerrero, Nick Petro, Chris Vozdik, Sandy Vargas

**Members**

**Excused:** Marina Guerrero, Chris Vozdik

**Members**

**Absent:**

**Guests:** Charlie Frank

**Recording**

**Secretary:** Laci Conrad

**Opening**

**Prayer:** Tom Hartley

**Review and  
Approval of  
(October  
2024)**

**Minutes:** Nick made a motion to approve the October 2024 meeting minutes; Rich seconded the motion; all approved.

**Staff Reports:**

**Lisette Uriostegui and Elsa Leon**

**Sacraments and Columbarium**

- Lisette introduced herself and explained her role as the sacramental preparation coordinator.
- The following statistics were shared:  
The sacramental office has organized the following events in 2024 to date:
  - 26 weddings
  - 40 funerals and prayer services
  - 12 niche orders
- The 2025 calendar for special masses and events is almost booked for the entire year.
- Lisette is conducting an audit to update Columbarium past due accounts.
- Plans are underway for a wedding expo event (Feb 2025)
- An end-of-life expo was held last year with several local funeral homes present; a similar event to include parish ministries was held this month with participation by Legion of Mary, Homebound, Columbarium, funeral pre-planning
- A new marriage ministry is forming for English and Spanish communities.
- This office is often the first impression of St. Ann's for new parishioners, and their goal is to build community.
- Elsa was introduced and is the Sacramental Assistant, primarily handling the baptism and sacramental requests (baptismal certificates, etc.). She has organized 153 baptisms since July 2024



**Carmen Ruiz Patino, Development Coordinator (Report submitted and read by Anne Miller)**

**Growing with Grace**

- Grand total in pledges: \$3.7 million after the matching challenge during the months of July-October
- We continue to work on contacting parishioners that have made a pledge but have not contributed.
- Reaching out to new families that may not have made a pledge yet.
- We continue to look at ways to raise money, but more importantly to form community, work together and make everyone feel part of the campaign.
  - Food sales & events throughout the year have raised over \$50,000 towards the campaign
  - Faith Formation classes have raised \$1,382.52 since September.
  - We are working with the youth coordinator, Maren, to see how to get the youth engaged since the box project has not worked with that age group

**Offertory Increase Program “God Loves a Cheerful Giver”**

- Letter from our pastor, Father Peter Grace was sent to every registered family the last week of October to inform families about the increased offertory program.
- Commitment weekend took place the weekend of November 10/11. We thank our priests for the great messages they shared with us in our calling to give.
- Report will be shared as soon as possible; additional responses were collected the weekend of November 16/17.

**Welcoming Committee**

- On October 26<sup>th</sup> the “Ministry Leaders Gathering” took place. Thank you to all the leaders that attended, we hope to schedule several weekends where groups of our ministries will be outside church after all masses to let the community know about their ministries.
- A welcoming reception is being planned with the goal of hosting one at the beginning of next year (possibly January 2025)

**Financial**

**Update:** Charlie Frank and Dean Penny

Charlie introduced himself as the new chairperson of the Finance Council. He will be replacing Dean at the monthly Pastoral Council meetings. Charlie will be developing a skills inventory survey to deploy to the parish to collect information on the professional and educational backgrounds of our parishioners. This survey will help identify the talents of our parishioners. He proposed having a Saturday retreat to allow collaboration between various ministries such as the Pastoral Council and Finance committee. The organized event will allow for collaborative group planning for the next 12-18 months.

Vacations have prevented October end of month reports but will be shared as soon as possible.

**Offertory Increase Program (OIP)**

- This is a crucial initiative this year.
- Will run in October thru November ending with Thanksgiving to God
- The St. Ann story videos will be played at masses and on social media to highlight the value of our parish and how our offertory helps so many parishioners.

**Storage Building/Community Outreach Center**

- The building has passed the final inspection.
- Final painting, hardware in progress
- Move-in availability for ministries is within the next week.



## Property Acquisitions

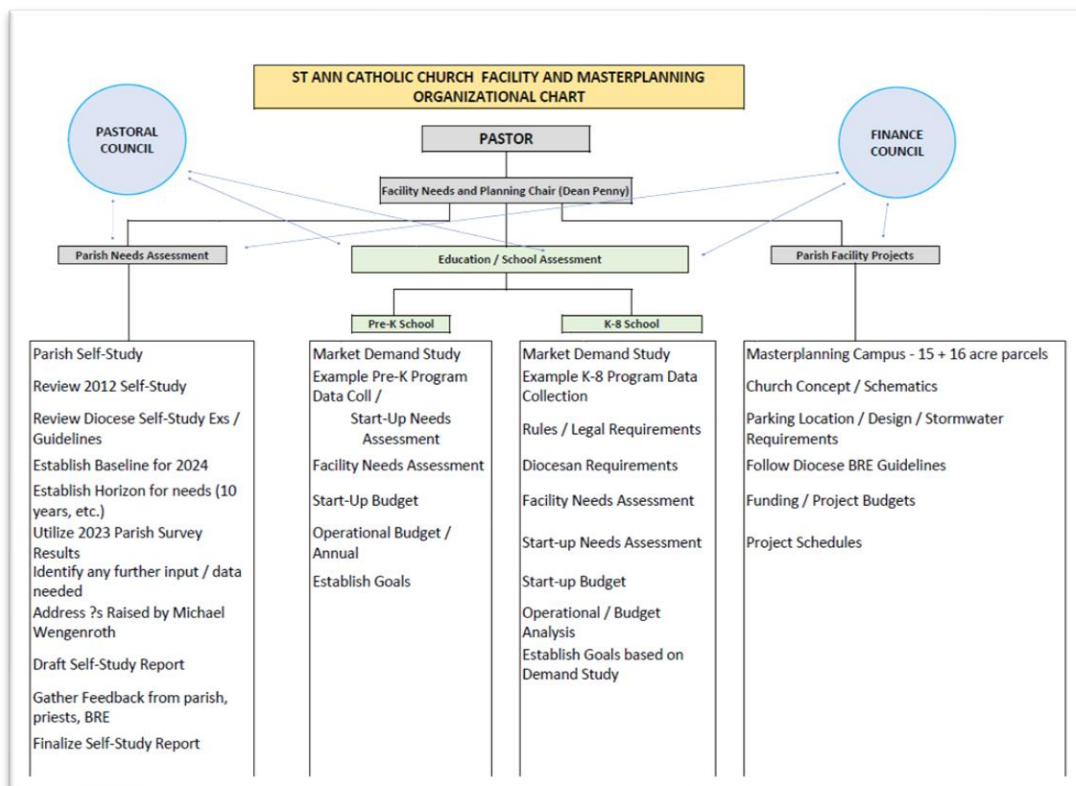
- Parcel #1: Grantham, 16 acres  
Appraised value: \$830,000  
Currently in negotiations  
Due Diligence efforts underway
- Parcel #2: Brooks, 66 acres  
Negotiations have stalled.

## Self-study/needs assessment

The parish self-study has been underway since 2023, including the surveys we conducted then. The draft of the 2024 self-study report is nearing completion and will soon be ready for review. We need PC to review and offer comments.

### Contents:

- Background/history of the parish
- Current growth projections
- Current programs and facilities
- Recommendations
  - Land
  - Campus Masterplan
  - Building/Facility Program Elements





**Updates  
and  
Discussion  
Items:**

**Pastoral Council Presentations at Masses - Anne Miller**

- The pastoral council along with other ministries will work together with the Welcome Committee to present an end of mass message. The ministries will then be available after each mass to answer questions.
  - During this event the pastoral council members can share the self-nomination process with parishioners
  - Anne asked the council members to start thinking about people we may want to encourage for self-nomination.

**Pastor's  
Remarks**

**New Mass Times**

Father shared that the time between masses is rushed, and parishioners miss the community aspect. This also impacts the time children actually spend in classes. Father is considering the following options for Sunday mass times, and new faith formation times accordingly:

- 7:30 a.m. – new time already in place
- 9:30 a.m. – no change
- 11:30 a.m. – proposed change
- 1:30 p.m. – proposed change

Anne shared that she spoke with Lupe, who is in favor of the changes. Her only concern is pushback from catechists as there will be a longer wait time between classes beginning/ending and mass beginning. It would be best to implement any further changes in January 2025. Father will meet with Lupe to discuss further.

**New Priests**

A priest from the Dominican Republic will come for a month to our church and work on his visa. He will collaborate with the diocese on his assignment once the visa is in place. For example, the Raleigh hospital chapel needs a priest. Father is working with the Passionists in Kenya, Tanzania, and Malawi as their service in the states supports training of seminarians in their home countries. The Bishop is open to new priests. As part of his religious order, the Passionists, Father can recruit priests from other countries.

**Land Acquisitions and Expansion Priorities**

- Father asks that we keep praying for the land deals to move forward.
- Land #1: Waiting for official contract.
- Land #2: developer has changed his mind, still waiting for a possible deal to be made.

**Work on the Diocese 100-year anniversary**

Lori Power is working on a project to chronicle the history of St. Ann. She shared some of the research she has conducted thus far which includes Thomas Frederick Price. She has developed a timeline beginning in 1936 of priests in Johnston county, NC. Her historical collaborative will include history from Johnston county, NC, our church, as well as St. Ann, our patron saint. She asked for feedback from the council on the medium in which to share her research. Her initial plans are to write a blog and release

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## ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH



segments of the story as it is built out using the diocese's social media guide recommendations. She has many articles and artifacts which will be a part of the official "story."

### [Faith Refresher - Bulletin](#)

Rich Boyd shared that while visiting a church in SC, he viewed their bulletin and the use of this outreach to promote various OCIA topics to refresh parishioner faith.

### ***Father's Closing Prayer***

***The next Pastoral Council Meeting is December 16, 2024, at 7 p.m. in Learning Center Room 208. (Social potluck, no formal agenda)***

Meeting adjourned at: 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Laci Conrad