ACC Pastoral Council Minutes

August 11, 2026 3:00 pm Large Meeting Room at Holy Family

Attendees: Fr. Joe Fleming, Robert Willis, Karla Valentini, Erin Hessler, Brandy Bussard, Lenore Manning, Maureen Watt

Food Bank Program/Project Update: Working Terry Vaughn at Food Bank to move things forward. Terry is arranging to get architects and contractors to create designs and bids for moving and remodeling the building on the ACC site. Fr. Joe is working with Chancery to get contract language hammered out that would support what both parties want to achieve.

St. Peter Mural Update: The left side mural was installed, and Adam will start working on the right-side mural. He was paid $21,000, one half the remaining contract charge of $42,000.

Handicap Access: Fr. Joe has asked the automatic door opener company to come out and install an opener at the Holy Family facility and then investigate what would be possible for St. Peter church.

Branding strategy with simple logo: The logo to the left was voted to be the preferred one from the choices presented and the group agreed that we should go forward with using it on some pens, flashlights and other tokens to give away to get the name and number of our community publicized. Fr. Joe discussed this at the Finance Council meeting at 5:00 pm and they were also supportive of moving forward with ordering an assortment of items. Fr. Joe has put in an order that should have items available in just over a week that we can start handing out.

Foundation for Diocese of Helena approved a grant of $2,450 to support scholarship funds for youth evangelization and educational activities. We will need to look into how we want to invest this grant money in the coming months so start giving it some thought to be discussed at future meetings.

Finance Council Installed, member listed on website in “more” column “Parish Councils”. Also added Rober (Bob) Willis to our Pastoral Council who Fr. Joe missed getting on the original list. He had applied and Fr. Joe forgot to get back to him in a timely manner. He has served on parish councils in the past and should be able to provide some good historical knowledge.

We will be moving forward with installing the basketball hoops that were donated to us by the school district in the back corner of our parking lot. Committee members went out after the meeting and decided where to locate the hoops and will be working with the Job Corps people to get them installed in the coming weeks.

The final bids for the new pews and kneelers at Holy Family are supposed to be completed this coming week. The council is supportive of moving forward with getting them installed and the Finance Council is supportive of paying for them. More information will be

forthcoming as delivery timelines are worked out. We are waiting on recommendations from the subcommittee on what fabrics to use on the padding for the pews and kneelers.

We will start printing the bulletin locally in September and limit the size to a 8.5 x 11 four-page format. We should be able to have more timely articles for last-minute announcements that need to be made. Articles will be formatted such that they can be easily transmitted to those that use Evangelus as well as fit nicely on the parish web site. We will print more limited quantities for those that don't want to use electronic methods, but we will encourage as many people as possible to receive the bulletins electronically to save on printing costs. The Evangelus and Website bulletins will generally be available by noon on Fridays.

Mass times on Sunday have moved up ½ hour to 8:30 and 10:30. Collection baskets are now being passed. Fr. Joe has asked that the one common basket still be placed at the back of the Churches because he has seen people coming in looking for the basket to drop off their donations on the way in rather than wait for the baskets to be passed. The baskets will remind those that want to wait until the offertory or may have forgotten they could drop them off earlier.

Fr. Joe has purchased an 86" & 55" OLED TVs on portable stands. There is a remote-control camera with transmitting equipment that will allow us to broadcast video from services in the main worship space to the 86" TV in anywhere in the Hunthausen center. This can be used for funerals as well as Christmas and Easter services when we have overflow crowds of people. The 55" TV will be primarily for OCIA classes and is equipped with a camera so it can be used for Microsoft TEAM meetings which will be used in our OCIA classes this coming fall. Both TVs can be attached to PCs or have thumb drives inserted to display pictures and do other presentations at funerals or other activities as needed.

Fr. Joe met with one person interested in a Youth Ministry type position, but so far there have been no other qualified candidates expressing interest in either the Youth or Music Ministry positions. With Patty Cook leaving to pursue her Catechesis of the Good Shepherd work for the Diocese, we will be struggling to maintain a religious education program if we can't find someone qualified to lead it. We are still looking and need prayers to help fill these positions for our community.

Interest was expressed in pursuing a family photo album this fall. We have been approached by companies that offer to spearhead this effort if we share our databases information so they can call and invite the families of our community to sign up for family photos. The last photo album was done in 2016, so 10 years ago. We can run some ads in the bulletins to check the general interest in pursuing such an effort.

We have received a very thorough proposal to do some basic landscaping work in the parking lot of St. Peter's. Fr. Joe has authorized up to $2,000 to be spent to get something started. Ads will be placed in the bulletin looking for people to help with the effort.

Brandy had an article from someone offering to put on a seminar on Bishop Fulton Sheen with 2 morning and 2 afternoon sessions for $4,500 plus travel expenses. Fr. Joe has

checked with Fr. Craig Hanley in Butte and there exists the potential to do some sort of joint effort to share expenses and make it available to a wider audience. Fr. Joe will visit with the speaker to get more details and possibly see what could be scheduled for us and the Butte Deanery.

We briefly discussed a number of other projects that we could consider pursuing in the coming months depending on having the people willing to lead the efforts. We have listed them here to encourage people to let the council members know how interested they would possibly be in undertaking them and if they would be willing to help out:

1. Karaoke Night and dances in the Hunthausen Center
2. Line/Swing Dancing Lessons
3. Building at Grotto somewhere on the Holy Family property
4. Fr. Dillon has started efforts to have a Pilgrimage to Rome next year
5. New Welcoming Ministry to reach out to new parishioners
6. Ministry Fair/Sign up day
7. Signage on highway 1 coming into Anaconda
8. Research staring up the “Renew” family gathering ministry from years ago where small groups of people gather for dinner faith sharing regularly in each other’s homes
9. New Mother Baby Showers and Baptismal preparation
10. Junior Knights of Columbus
11. Coat Drive
12. Sharing our events with other parishes/communities and publishing their events locally
13. Bowling night during the Winter
14. Men’s & Women’s Retreat at Sycamore Retreat Center
15. Hard Copies of Parish Pastoral & Finance Council meeting minutes made available for those that don’t have the ability to look at them through electronic means

Next Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, September 8th at 3:00 pm.