

Church of St. Patrick – Edina

Pastoral Council Meeting Summary - February 12, 2026

Members Present: Fr. Kuss, Michelle Hannan, Grace Hanson, Kathy Koehler, Andy Piazza, Allison Schmidt, Julie Schnell, Roseanne Strand, Terry Kapsen

Members via Zoom: Bill Schnobrich, Jim Swanke

Members Not Present: None

Opening & Approval of Minutes

- Fr. Kuss opened with a prayer.
- Minutes for the January 12th meeting were approved with a typographical error required.

Meeting Purpose

Review parish activities, finances, and the capital campaign.

Key Takeaways

- **Capital Campaign:** The parish is seeking volunteers for the archdiocesan campaign, which returns 60% of the funds raised to St. Patrick's. The goal is to secure many pledges prior to the formal announcement in 6 weeks.
- **Strong Finances:** The parish is in a healthy financial position, with a ~\$50k net income surplus through January.
- **Staffing:** The search for an administrative assistant is slow. The new maintenance person hired, Doug Weyman, is performing exceptionally well.
- **Community Focus:** Key events are planned (St. Patrick's Day, Fish Dinner), and the parish is actively encouraging members to connect with each other to build community.

Topics

Capital Campaign

- **Objective:** Secure pledges before the archdiocese's formal announcement in 6 weeks to demonstrate parish success.
- **Funding Split:** 60% of funds raised stay at St. Patrick's; 40% go to the archdiocese.
- **Parish Use of Funds:** Security lighting, sidewalk repairs, the parish endowment fund, and financial support of other parish accounts.
- **Volunteer Needs:** More volunteers are needed for parishioner outreach.
- **Outreach Strategy:**
 - **Focus:** Encourage parishioner giving *above* their regular tithe.
 - **Tone:** Emphasize generous giving, not "sacrificial giving."
 - **Meeting Logistics:** Volunteers can meet parishioners in homes, public places (e.g., Caribou Coffee), or private rooms at the church.

Parish Finances & Staffing

- **Financial Health:** The parish has a net income surplus of ~\$50,000 through January.
- **Administrative Assistant Search:**
 - **Status:** Slow, despite postings on the archdiocese career site and LinkedIn.
 - **Policy:** No parishioners will be hired.

Church of St. Patrick – Edina

Pastoral Council Meeting Summary - February 12, 2026

- **Rationale:** To avoid potential conflicts if an employment relationship fails and to ensure employees can attend Mass as parishioners, not as staff.
- **Action:** Encourage members to refer qualified, non-parishioner Catholics.
- **Details:** Full-time (32 hours/week).
- **New Maintenance Hire:** Doug Weyman is performing exceptionally well.

Community & Event Updates

- **St. Patrick's Day Celebration:** March 15, 11 AM–1 PM. Features food, a face painter, and games.
- **Men's Club Events:**
 - **Lenten Fish Dinner:** March 6. A TV will be added to show the state hockey tournament.
 - **Steak & Cigar Dinner:** May 13.
 - **Annual Meeting:** May 21. Free pizza/beer to encourage attendance for elections of the new officers.
- **Garage Sale:**
 - **Dates:** September 9–12.
 - **Improvement:** Hold a "Table Setup Day" after a Sunday Mass to set up lightweight tables, reducing last-minute scramble and heavy lifting.
- **Altar Server Guide:** A revised guide will be distributed, pending final review.
- **Youth Ministry:** Monthly masses at Our Lady of Grace have stopped. The youth minister is developing new strategies to grow the program.

Parish Engagement & Administration

- **Community Building:** Council members were encouraged to follow Father's lead by greeting unknown parishioners to foster a more welcoming environment.
- **Envelope Packets:** The council will review the content of envelope packets at the next meeting to assess their value. ~80% of households receive them.
- **Council Composition:** A male member is needed to fill the secretary role and maintain gender balance after the term ended last June.

Next Steps

- **Terry:** Correct typographical error in the Women's Club update-COMPLETED
- **Terry:** Email council members to select a parish objective to focus on-COMPLETED
- **Terry:** Obtain new household and financial participation data from Bill-COMPLETED
- **Julie:** Distribute the revised altar server guide-PENDING
- **Men's Club:** Arrange for a TV to be available at the Lenten Fish Dinner--PENDING
- **Council Members:** Review offertory envelopes for discussion at next meeting-PENDING
- **Council:** Identify a male candidate for the secretary position-PENDING