

Approved Pastoral Council Minutes, December 11, 2025 Meeting, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

Vision: To be a growing community that inspires all to follow Jesus with a spirit of inclusion, compassion and service.

Mission: We encourage all to deepen their relationship with Jesus through scripture, prayer, stewardship, and ministry to others.

Tag Line: Follow Jesus Serve Others.

Meeting Notes

Attending: Father Joy Thachil (Parish Priest), Mike Flaherty (Trustee), Sue Switalski (Parish Associate), Dave Knoll (Parish Council Chair), Paula Lucey (Parish Council Vice Chair), Ellen Park (Secretary), Jason Metz, Sharon Wrotecki, Dave Chudy, Rachel Henderson, Jim Schutte, John Plant, Mickey Holtz

Excused: Anne Dettlaff, Dan Ryan, Rita McGann

Absent: Fidel Mangwiza

The Vision and Mission statements were read, as well as the tag line.

The minutes from the meeting on October 2 were approved.

Reports

Father Joy:

- Thanked all staff for their assistance while he was gone; complimented those who worked on the parish newsletter.
- A Penance service will be held on Wednesday evening, December 17, at 6:00pm.
- Prepare for Christmas.

Mike Flaherty:

- Envelopes and offertory collections were 4.2% below budget; 1.7% below 2024 actual. Comparing November to October, there was an increase of \$7,700; 5-month year-to-date, \$19,350 below budget compared to 4-month year-to-date, \$27,050 below budget.
- The trend through December 7, 2025, continues to be very positive.
- Total collections: 2.8% below budget; compared to 2024, flat (+.2%).

Sue Switalski:

- The Holiday Meal Box drive yielded 555 boxes of food; 225 gifts were delivered from the Giving Tree.
- All ministries are asked to have a representative light the Advent wreath each weekend.
- Encouraged council members, wearing identification tags, to engage with parishioners entering the Gathering Area prior to Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

- 24 children participated in First Reconciliation on December 10.
- Staff members continue to contribute to the bulletin.
- The speaker this Sunday is Grace Urbanski.
- The video Advent series, called Centered, continues on the Seton Facebook page every weekday, narrated by Sue.

Old Business

- Security for the parish was again discussed. Cameras and an electronic door lock system have been installed and are monitored in Nick's office. Nick has contacted the New Berlin Police Department to set a date for security training. Dave Knoll will add further discussion to the agenda for the March meeting.
- AEDs (automated external defibrillators) are located in Seton Hall and in the Gathering Area; it was noted to contact Dennis Sobush to find out who has been trained in CPR.
- Stewardship: Council members who have not submitted their definitions, are asked to send them to Dave Knoll and Ellen. At January's meeting, the council will meet in small groups to determine how Seton parish would reflect stewardship. Ellen is saving each definition as received and will forward the documents to Paula to integrate definitions into a document.

New Business

- Paula shared that some parishioners would like to celebrate May Crowning.
- Paula thanked the crew for cleaning the parking lot after the heavy snowfall.
- In November, the United States Catholic Bishops issued a letter regarding immigration.

Council members joined in Prayers for Others; Father Joy led members in prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm; the next meeting is on Thursday, January 8, 2026.