

Approved Pastoral Council Minutes, September 11, 2025, 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), Michael Flaherty, Dan Ryan (Trustees), John Plant (Parish Council Chair), Sue Switalski (Parish Associate), Jason Metz, Sharon Wrotecki, Dave Chudy, Dave Knoll, Ellen Park, Fidel Mangwiza, Mickey Holtz, Anne Dettlaff

Excused: Rita McGann, Jim Schutte, Rachel Henderson, Paula Lucey

Absent:

The following officers were elected: Dave Knoll, Parish Council Chair; Paula Lucey, Parish Vice Chair; Ellen Park, Secretary

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

The minutes from the meeting on August 7 were approved.

Reports

Father Joy:

- Welcomed new members to the Council and thanked Sue Switalski for initiating the discernment process.
- The Grandparents' Mass/reception last Sunday was successful, with plans to augment the celebration next year with a blessing after Communion.
- ReConnect Ministry is having a training session on Wednesday, September 24, 9am to 11am in Sippel Hall; still need a few people to coordinate the ministry. Sue added that there is a need to refer names of parishioners, who regularly attended Mass in the past, but have not been seen in attendance recently.
- The 50th anniversary of the canonization of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton will be celebrated this Sunday, September 14, with a prayer after Communion and a reception following Masses.

Mike Flaherty:

- The financial outlook of the parish has changed very little since the last Council meeting; July results were 5.0% plus better than budget and similar to last year's actual; Paula will continue to represent the Pastoral Council on the Finance Committee.

Sue Switalski:

- Family Formation is starting on September 28-29; catechists will receive a blessing at the 10:45am Mass on September 21.
- On the evening of October 9, volunteers will pack the Send Them Our Love boxes for 2024-25 high school graduates to use at college.
- Migrant Ministry: Holy Apostles wants to collaborate with Seton in aid to immigrants; on October 3, Holy Apostles is hosting a Migrant Ministry Stations of the Cross.

Old Business

- New Catechesis of Good Shepherd (CGS) preparation is ongoing. The program will start in January, beginning with three-year-olds.
- A new Youth Minister has been hired, starting on September 21.

New Business

- September 27 is a Day of Reflection from 9 am-3 pm; day of spiritual renewal and leadership development led by Father Tom Sweetser.
- There will be a 2025 Parish Council Training webinar on Wednesday, September 17, 6:30pm to 8:30pm.
- Patrick Landry, President of Notre Dame School of Milwaukee, will be giving a short update of the school's activities at Masses on September 20-21.
- All Souls Remembrance Mass will be held on Saturday, November 1, at 5pm, with a reception to follow.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm; the next meeting is on Thursday, October 2, 2025.