

Approved Pastoral Council Minutes for June 5, 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 (Pastor), Michael Flaherty, (Trustee), Sue Switalski (Parish Associate), Rita McGann (Finance), Jason Metz, Sharon Wrotecki, Jerry Huber, Paula Lucey, Chase Stublely, Dennis Sobush, Mickey Holtz, Dave Chudy, Rachel Henderson, Jim Schutte,

Excused: Dan Ryan, John Plant, Anne Dettlaff

Absent:

Rachel opened the meeting, followed by Bible readings; Council members shared experiences relevant to those readings.

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

The minutes from the meeting on May 1 were approved.

Reports

Father Joy:

- Thanked Seton's formation team who prepared the 28 children for First Eucharist.
- Ann Ryan and her team are working on the Summer Bible Camp.
- Funfest will be launched this weekend.

Rita McCann:

- Presented the year-to-date financial report (July 1, 2024-April 30, 2025); envelopes and offertory collections are below YTD Budget by 3.7%, decrease of 4.9% over prior year to date. Seton has a very healthy balance sheet. Ups and downs in the monthly income contributions are to be expected.

Sue Switalski:

- The Pentecost party is this weekend, with refreshments following each Mass.
- Attended the National Association for Lay Ministry last weekend, an international event held every other year. It consists of five themes: Ministerial Identity, Diversity, Co-responsibility and Synodality, Formation, and Ministerial Setting. These themes relate to the journey experienced in the Church, by every baptized person, each working together and sharing responsibility, whether clergy or laity.

Old Business

- Discernment: Dennis introduced Fidelis Mangwiza as a candidate for discernment by the Pastoral Council. No other candidates have stepped forward. Dennis, representing the discernment committee, will have another gathering, in August, to welcome other parishioners who show interest in serving on Seton's Pastoral Council. Father Joy told all Council members to encourage their friends to consider serving as Council representatives.
- The 10:45 Mass, on June 22, will be celebrated for all students graduating this year, kindergarten through college.

New Business

- Stewardship Appeal: having difficulty getting completed forms returned; it was suggested that when a form is returned, the sender could get a chance to win a prize at Funfest.
- ReConnect Launch Team: Dennis met with parishioners who have shown interest in initiating this program at Seton. It is hoped that this base group will bring in additional parishioners, who, visiting in teams, will reconnect with Seton members who no longer can attend services. Training will be provided.
- Mass Intentions: Openings are available, particularly during the week, for parishioners to offer remembrances of loved ones, at a cost of \$20 per Mass.
- Wooden Ark: Dennis Horbinski had the design and Roger Schaus the skills and materials to build it. Appearing as a replica of our church, it will serve as a home for the urn at funeral celebrations.
- Parish Fundraiser: Sue met with parish members who were previously active in the annual auction fundraiser, the last one being held three years ago. This group feels another fundraiser is needed, only with a smaller startup cost, possibly a wine and cheese night, very low key. It is in its early stages of planning, scheduled for next March. Chairpersons are needed.
- Parish Employees: Beth Pirkey is returning to Seton, serving as a secretary/ministry coordinator; Skylar Kumprey will be leaving her position as Director of Youth Ministry, but will continue to organize youth activities this summer, while a new Youth Minister is being hired.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm; the next meeting is on Thursday, August 7, 2025.