

St. Thomas Aquinas, Indianapolis
Parish Council Meeting April 7, 2026
Approved Minutes

- Meeting called to order at 7:05pm (Patrick Price)
- Opening Prayer – led by Fr. Varghese
- Roll Call
 - Present (in-person): Fr. Varghese, Karla Hudecek, Patrick Price, Geoff Ziegler, Fred Chandler, Sheila Brown, Nancy Stark, Lauryn Klitzman, Carissa Cartwright, Evelyn Ridley-Turner, Mary Catharine Grau
 - Present (virtual/Zoom): John Sobotowski, (Teresa Reynolds)
 - Absent: Jim Trippi, Chris Durnil, Mary Rice, Sonya Chevigny
- Approval of minutes from February 2026 meeting
 - Draft Minutes were prepared, previously shared and ready for approval.
 - Minutes were approved via consensus, as formatted.
- Comments from pastor (Fr. Varghese):
 - Reminder to PC leadership to be ambassadors of our faith
 - Shared visual representation of proposed baptismal font (location in front of section 1)
- Comments from pastoral associate (Karla Hudecek)
 - Prayer Service for Peace scheduled for this Saturday 10am-12pm (chapel)
 - Easter Masses were very well attended (850+ Sunday 10:30am)
 - Continuing to ensure proper spend of Maxine's bequest (aligned with FC).
 - Saturday Vigil Mass at 71st/Zionsville on May 2 at ICE detention center
 - "Who is My Neighbor?" Catholic Charities opportunity
- Finance Committee (John Sobotowski)
 - Report shared and available for review.
 - Discussion ensued around the following:
 - As of February 2, we are currently 2% below budget / up 7% YOY
 - Increased giving levels
 - Spend regarding carpet
 - Parents Association to assist with cost on cafeteria tables
- STA Strategic Plan
 - STA School strategic plan was shared and discussed. PC made a motion, seconded and unanimously approved to support this plan. Verbiage will be provided and included to this extent.
 - PC reviewed the updated Draft version of this document, acknowledging the overlapping collaborative nature of the area objectives.
 - PC agreed to holding updated listening sessions scheduled for April 25 & April 26.
 - In advance of this coming weekend (April 11/12):
 - Patrick to provide messaging to Matt, who will send out communication to the Parish with the drafted Strategic Plan.
 - Fred to take the lead with combining the strategic plan and have it prepared to share with the Parish.
 - PC members will provide a verbal update during the Masses to review and come back in two weeks.
- Commission Reports (cont.)
 - Spiritual Growth (Fred Chandler):
 - Report shared and available for review.

- Stewardship (Geoff Ziegler)
 - Report shared and available for review
- Community Engagement (Nancy Stark):
 - Report shared and available for review
 - SHarP Garden update – what opportunities exist
 - Ministry Fair / School / Butler
- STA School (Mary Catharine Grau):
 - Strategic Plan shared in lieu of a regular report.
- Dialogue, Truth, Faith (Jim Trippi)
 - Report shared and available for review.
- Buildings & Grounds (Chris Durnil)
 - Nothing for discussion.
- Additional Items of Interest:
 - Opportunities for Eviction Sealing
 - Indiana Justice Project / Indiana Legal Services
 - Sheila / Nancy / Geoff / Karla to work on seeing what opportunities may exist.
- Ending Prayer – led by Fr. Varghese
- Adjourned at 8:45pm.
- Future Meetings: 7-8:30 pm (unless otherwise noted):
 - June 2 / August 4 / October 6 / December 1