

**Church of the Resurrection Pastoral Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday March 17, 2026**  
**6:15pm to 7:30pm /// St. Paul's – Dohony Hall**  
**7:45pm to 8:45pm – Dohony 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Music Room**

P = Present E = Excused

**Pastoral Council (voting members)**

<u>Member</u>	<u>Status</u>
Kevin Bellamy	P
Michael Cain	P
Pat Cirasole	E
Kathy Kraft (CS)	P
Sharon Lanza	P
Tom Lauer (P)	P
Dave Lucero	P
Cathy Parrish	P
Paul Reif	P
Carolyn Sherman (RS)	P
Paul Venginickal	P
Brad Weiss (VP)	P
Sara Thomas: (non-voting) School Liaison	E
<u>Clergy</u>	<u>Status</u>
Fr. Andy Aaron (Pastor)	P
Fr. Paul Kongnyuy (Associate Pastor)	E
Fr. Kevin Farmer (Associate Pastor)	E

**Others in attendance**

<u>Standing Committees &amp; Ministries</u> <u>(reports reviewed prior to mtg.)</u>	
<u>Ministry / Lead</u>	<u>Reporting Months</u>
Liturgy (Roy Harris)	NOV / JAN / MAR / MAY
Fellowship (Mary Reif)	NOV / JAN / MAR / MAY
Social Justice (John Wilkin)	NOV / JAN / MAR / MAY
Adult Faith Formation (Kate Kleintank)	DEC / FEB / APR / JUN
K-5 Faith Formation (Susan Yost)	DEC / FEB / APR / JUN
Youth Ministry (Shannon Turlik)	DEC / FEB / APR / JUN
CAM Summary (Kathy Kraft)	MONTHLY
<u>Pastoral Council</u> <u>Priority Committees</u>	All Months
Welcome, Hospitality, New Families, Young People	<b>Sharon Lanza (Lead)</b> , Pat Cirasole, Carolyn Sherman
Engage & Connect Parishioners	<b>Michael Cain (Lead)</b> Cathy Parrish, Paul Venginickel, Brad Weiss
Small Church Community	<b>Kevin Bellamy (Lead)</b> , Pat Cirasole, Kathy Kraft Tom Lauer

1. **Call to Order:** (PC President)
2. **Roll Call / Establish Quorum** (Recording Secretary) Quorum established.
3. **Opening Prayer & Short Reflection** by Sharon Lanza,
4. **January 20, 2026 - Minutes** were approved electronically and posted to CoR Website.
5. **President's Comments –**

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Mini Ministry Fair--a home run! Attendees signed up for volunteer opportunities.

Facilities & Dates—did submit dates for FY27, including summer dates, which might be planning-only type meetings.

Budget has been submitted.

Retreat: Saturday, June 27. Will go until about 1:00. Mass at 8:00, joint PC session to determine priorities for the year, early lunch, speaker on Missionary Discipleship.

### **Pastor Report / Update**

#### a. General Updates from Pastor

Excited about all the things going on in the parish. Faith, volunteering, engagement – happy with it.

Recent night of confessions for middle and high schoolers: 7 priests, 400 students!

After much prayer and thought, will be taking a new direction for seating Pastoral Council members– the prayer and discernment model. This is the model that the Archdiocese is promoting. Fr. Andy has seen it work well in previous parishes. Parishioners will nominate selves or others; the Council (including Fr. Andy) will pray and discern in choosing those who will best serve the parish (for example, looking for representation from the under-40 population, and those with school-aged children).

Candidates will be discerned at 21 April PC meeting, so call for nominations needs to take place in March. Suggestion that Fr. Andy speak from the pulpit ASAP to explain the new model. Perhaps as early as 21/22 March. Could also put in Pastor's Corner.

6. **Councilor at Mass (CAM)** (Corresponding Secretary) No significant issues.
7. **Review of Pastoral Council Priority Committees**

**Welcome, Hospitality, New Families, Young People** (Sharon Lanza) The first New Parishioner welcome went well! Encourage all of us to come to next one, to chat with new people one-on

one. Next committee meeting is Thursday March 26, 12:30 in the Small Conference Room. Any ideas to make it better? One comment: "Don't overthink it—it was great!" The next New Parishioner Meet and Greet is Sunday, April 12, after the 11:30 mass. (And hope to complete in time to attend Divine Mission Sunday). Sharon plans to reach out to Dave Manley (St. Paul Parish Council) who is hosting their first New Parishioner Meet and Greet on April 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Engage & Connect, Volunteers and Brochure** (Michael Cain) Thanks to Cathy for leading the charge for the first Mini Ministry Fair, a wine and cheese event (and lemonade), held Saturday, March 14 after 5:00 mass. Cathy and Tom did a great job of inviting folks to attend as they were leaving after mass. Mike opened with welcome and prayer. Tables for Liturgy, Fall Fest, Social Justice, SVdP, Open Arms, Neighbor Ride, Fellowship, and Greeters. Short presentations given, sign-up sheets were provided – received quite a few names. Suggestion that there be at one, and maybe two before the end of the FY. Try next one on a Sunday. Bring back same ministries and others as well. Maybe just set up ministry tables and let people wander. Share that working on a committee really allows you to develop friendships with other parishioners. Other ideas for "engage and connect": Ice Cream Social. And/or try for a "big" ministry fair – possibly in FY27. Mike working on ministries brochure.

**Small Church Community** (Kevin Bellamy). The small group committee will be doing two surveys over the next 30 to 45 days. The first, at the request of Fr. Andy, will survey the Lenten Small Groups that are studying the Sr. Miran series "Restore". From this survey Fr. Andy is looking to see if folks would like to continue in a small group. We also want to see if we can find other potential small group leaders so that we can continue to group our small groups. The second evaluation will be done with those group leaders who are leading on-going groups. Our intent with the second survey is to try and find areas where the committee can best support the needs of the on-going small groups. Kevin noted that he presented about SCCs at recent Men's retreat – was well received. Plans to conduct interviews with current small group leaders, to learn what makes their group successful.

## 8. Review of Standing Committee and Ministry Reports

**Fellowship** – Mary Reif (from report) At 1 March Coffee and Donuts, had 401 in attendance – had to open MP rooms for more seating! 24 new parishioner welcome calls from Dee Wilkie; provided lunch for 7 priests who were hearing middle school confessions; working on making after-mass "Coffee and Conversation" a reality.

**Social Justice** – John Wilkin (present) Cold weather shelter dinners (9-16 March) — a lot of people have signed up. CRS (Catholic Relief Services) Rice Bowl — please be generous. Explained that Catholic Charities works in the U.S.; CRS works worldwide. SSSMile village in India— benefit dinner on April 11. We also support St. Mary's in Palestine and San Bartola in El Salvador. Fr. Andy noted that parishioners have provided tuition (\$750 per child) for 13 children at St. Mary's. Hosting a prayer service on March 31 in Pastoral Center, modeling Pope Leo's monthly prayer service. Book sale coming up in June. Lead Fran Murray has since moved; need many volunteers.

**Liturgy** – Roy Harris (present) Lots going on with Holy Week approaching. Last year, 2700 in attendance Easter morning, 500 at the vigil. Using hall, not gym. Flowers falls under Liturgy,

has submitted budget asking for increased amount (due to rising costs). Will reinstate the Sacred Blood under the appearance of wine on Holy Thursday. Props to Martin Mullan for stepping in for Liturgy at the Ministry Fair, and to Helen Gross for the trifolds she prepared. Ordination for Deacon in training Chris Patrick on May 9. Altar server numbers are down to 24, more are needed.

## 9. Pastoral Council Business – Other Topics for Discussion

- a. Begin Process to seat new Council Members
  - i. Pastoral Councils guidance from the Archdiocese of Baltimore
    1. The role of the PC – reflect on needs of the parish, discern options, recommendations to pastor (prayerful, discerning group led by Holy Spirit)
    2. Listening in synodal way to those in the parish: participate in listening, dialogue, and discernment guided by the Holy Spirit. It is characterized by communion, participation, and mission, aimed at making the Church more inclusive.
  - ii. Duties of Council Members – definition shared in September 2025 PC Meeting:  
*The Pastoral Council is an advisory body that supports our pastor by offering guidance on matters related to the Parish. Its primary role is to investigate, reflect on, and draw informed conclusions about pastoral concerns, which are then presented as recommendations to the pastor. To carry out this mission effectively, council members are expected to be actively involved in parish life and to foster the engagement of the wider parish community. By doing so, we place ourselves in a better position to understand the needs and aspirations of our parish community. This role comes with the responsibility to participate fully in activities required of council members, and to live our lives as faithful Catholics grounded in prayer, discernment, listening and sharing.*
  - iii. Strategic and mission focus – core mission priorities
    1. Liturgy, Welcome, Encounter, Accompany, Sending, Mission Support
  - iv. Carolyn Sherman (no), Paul Reif (yes), Paul Venginickal (?), Dave Lucero (?)
- b. State of the Council - Revisited Constitution and By-Laws. Talked all last year about updating them, but no real movement. Current Archdiocese practices show movement towards “guidelines”. The document, whatever form it takes, is meant to outline how the council can best serve the pastor. Mike Cain (retired lawyer) looked into the question of whether there is a required process to amend/lay aside the current Constitution/By-Laws. His finding is that the Pastoral Council is not a registered non-profit, it has no legal footing, such

that guiding documents can be updated at the discretion of the pastor. Brad offered to work with Tom and Mike on guidelines.

i. What is working? What not working?

c. Other Items Suggested by Father Andy or Council Members

i. Fall Festival, Howard County Fair – opportunities for evangelization

**10. School Update** (Sara Thomas/excused)

**11. Actions Needed Resulting from This Meeting:** 728pm

a. Tom will send Fr. Andy thoughts about pulpit talk for seating of new Pastoral Council members; potentially for the weekend of 21/22 March.

b. Kathy and Tom will work on process for implementing discernment model.

c. Brad, Tom and Michael to work on guidelines for Pastoral Council.

**12. Next Pastoral Council Meeting**

a. April 21 @ 7:45pm – Church of the Resurrection – Church Hall

**13. Closing Prayer & Blessing** – Fr. Andy

14. Adjournment at 7:30 pm

**15. Optional Meeting: 745 – 845pm, Dohony Hall Music Room, down one level**

**Parking Lot for Future Discussion / Specific Action & Owner**

1. Update Constitution & By-Laws of Resurrection Pastoral Council

2. Possible Joint Initiatives with St. Paul's Council (Adoration Chapel, Small Groups, New Parishioner Welcome Lunches, Young Adults)