

Church of the Resurrection Pastoral Council Meeting
Tuesday February 17, 2026
7:45pm to 9:00pm
Church of the Resurrection, MP1

P = Present E = Excused

Pastoral Council (voting members)

Others in attendance

<u>Member</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Standing Committees & Ministries</u> <u>(reports reviewed prior to mtg.)</u>	
Kevin Bellamy	p	<u>Ministry / Lead</u>	<u>Reporting Months</u>
Michael Cain	P	Liturgy (Roy Harris)	NOV / JAN / MAR / MAY
Pat Cirasole	P	Fellowship (Mary Reif)	NOV / JAN / MAR / MAY
Kathy Kraft (CS)	P	Social Justice (John Wilkin)	NOV / JAN / MAR / MAY
Sharon Lanza	E	Adult Faith Formation (Kate Kleintank)	DEC / FEB / APR / JUN
Tom Lauer (P)	P	K-5 Faith Formation (Susan Yost)	DEC / FEB / APR / JUN
Dave Lucero	P	Youth Ministry (Shannon Turlik)	DEC / FEB / APR / JUN
Cathy Parrish	P	CAM Summary (Kathy Kraft)	MONTHLY
Paul Reif	P		
Carolyn Sherman (RS)	P	<u>Pastoral Council</u> <u>Priority Committees</u>	All Months
Paul Venginickal	P	Welcome, Hospitality, New Families, Young People	Sharon Lanza (Lead) , Pat Cirasole, Carolyn Sherman
Brad Weiss (VP)	P	Engage & Connect Parishioners	Michael Cain (Lead) Cathy Parrish, Paul Venginickel, Brad Weiss
Sara Thomas: (non-voting) School Liaison	P	Small Church Community	Kevin Bellamy (Lead) , Pat Cirasole, Kathy Kraft Tom Lauer
<u>Clergy</u>	<u>Status</u>		
Fr. Andy Aaron (Pastor)	P		
Fr. Paul Kongnyuy (Associate Pastor)	E		
Fr. Kevin Farmer (Associate Pastor)	E		

- **Call to Order:** (PC President / VP)
- **Roll Call / Establish Quorum** (Recording Secretary) Quorum established.
- **Opening Prayer & Short Reflection** – Pat Cirasole
- **January 20, 2026 - Minutes** were approved electronically and posted to CoR Website.
- **President's Comments** –
 - Will keep trying to stick to times outlined on agenda.
 - PC Committees are well in gear; are meeting offline/outside of Council meetings; Tom recommends that these meetings start and end in prayer.
 - CAM clipboards -- still working on a designated spot.
 - Working on calendar for next year—hopes for Tuesdays again. Cathy P. asked if we could meet over the summer; Tom will look for time on the calendar.
 - “St. Paul +60”: When council meets at St. Paul’s during the 6:15 to 7:30 timeslot, will make 7:30 to 8:30 available for continued conversation (no notes recorded).
 - Fall Fest—2nd Hand Treasures -- No one to lead at the moment; it does bring in a good bit of money, and it attracts people who don’t go to this church. Don’t rule it out yet.
 - Mugs were gifted to staff members
- **Pastor Report / Update**

Adoration Chapel. Having reviewed the various options, the plan now is to use a dedicated section of the chapel for Adoration, rather than building something new or carving out space from within the Pastoral Center. This will be in addition to Monday Adoration. Times will be blocked off, to include some evenings (not going 24/7 yet). When worshippers are present, they can open the doors of the cabinet; if no one present, can simply close cabinet doors. Fr. Andy will discuss further at next parish staff meeting; start time will likely not be until after Lent. Brad noted that this makes good use of existing facilities and will be a good test run as to participation. Cathy P. noted that if we end up using a phone app for access, to be sure to also have the keypad available for entry. If/when a committee is established to work out all the details, consider inviting someone from Youth Ministry to join.

Reminder about Lenten Mission speakers on Sunday March 8 at 6:30 pm with Haley Scott Demaria (A Journey of Faith and Triumph), at Resurrection, and Fr. Charles Canterna (How to Receive and Give God’s Love and Mercy/prison ministry) Monday March 9, 7:00 pm at St. Paul.

- **Councilor at Mass (CAM) (Corresponding Secretary)**

A parishioner/visitor asked about the police security presence; was assured by Councilor that it was a proactive measure, was not in response to any particular incident. The individual was not receptive to the answer; attempted to gain contact information from the individual so that further information/follow-up could be made, but individual was not interested in continuing dialog.

Learned that Greeter Ministry Leaders had met with Fr. Andy about the police presence; will share that information with the greeters, emphasizing that this is a proactive measure, is not in response to any particular incident. If anyone has additional questions on security or any other topic the greeter can't address, the greeter will refer that person to the CAM—or to Kathy Kraft if there is no CAM at that Mass.

Have ushers been briefed? Since Roy Harris (Liturgy) was in on security meetings, confident this has been shared with ushers/sacristans.

Further thought to be given as to additional crisis training. Cathy P. noted that she and Greg Jolissaint have provided CPR and AED training to ushers and sacristans, and more sessions will be offered. Parish staff has received additional crisis training – as they are on campus for extended periods of time. RSPS HSA rep Sara Thomas asked about security presence for school masses—it is in place and is managed by the school.

Two other items: 1) Need for additional lights in parking lot and near the Pastoral Center? Not in the budget. 2) Stephen was not aware that some parishioners missed Christmas decorations at the Christmas concert – Cathy P. will follow up with Stephen,

- **Review of Pastoral Council Priority Committees**

Welcome, Hospitality, New Families, Young People (Sharon Lanza) Pat reported on Sharon's behalf: first Meet and Greet was held Sunday February 15th. Thirteen new parishioners attended, as well as Welcome Committee members and Pastoral Council members. Gift bags were presented – with mugs and info on volunteer opportunities. Those who were unable to attend will be invited to the next one, tentatively scheduled for March 29th/Palm Sunday. May rethink the date of Palm Sunday. Received 2 emails from attending families, saying how much they enjoyed the event.

Engage & Connect, Volunteers and Brochure (Michael Cain) Committee met outside of PC meeting and have scheduled a mini ministry fair for Saturday March 14th, 6 to 8 pm in the hall. Will be a wine and cheese kind of event. Have invited reps from Fellowship, Liturgy, Fall Fest, and Social Justice. Will begin with prayer, then have each rep speak for a few minutes on their ministry, then socialize. The next planning meeting is Feb 26th, 7:30 pm, at Tous Les Jours. Cathy P. suggested announcements be made the weekend prior to the event. Reinforce to

congregation that in order for these ministries to continue – YOU are needed. If successful, will look to do another mini fair in about 4 months, with reps from other parish ministries.

Mike is the lead for the trifold (info on the many ministries) – will work with staff member Caroline Resetar.

Can the volunteer dinner (complete with hilarious skits by staff) be resurrected? Was very popular. Michael Cain and Tom Lauer to reach out to Stephen.

Small Church Community (Kevin Bellamy) Shared samples of 2 surveys: a Small Group Evaluation for participants of the Lenten Small Group program; and a questionnaire for Leaders of SCC/Small Groups about how they started their small group, materials used, how to recruit, have you identified others who could be small group leaders, etc. Kevin will work with Kate as to whom to send Leaders survey.

- **Review of Standing Committee and Ministry Reports (highlights from Tom)**

Youth Ministry (Shannon Turlik) Typically 40 to 50 youth in line for confessions at Life Teen! Urban Hunger project – serve citizens of downtown Baltimore; also try to bring clothing items (hats, gloves, scarves); -- some teens give away their personal belongings. Shannon and some adults who volunteer for youth group attended a SEEK Catholic conference – amazing and inspiring! Had to cancel recent fundraiser due to scheduling conflict; financial support is needed.

Adult Faith Formation (Kate Kleintank) OCIA (formerly RCIA) 5 in the pastorate to receive Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation at Easter vigil. 11 new people signed up for Lenten small groups. Fr Andy comment: young adults mostly participating at OLPH; Tom suggested Mike talk with Shannon about young adult opportunities.

K-5 Faith Formation (Susan Yost) Ran out of time; see detailed summary which was sent prior to meeting via email.

- **Pastoral Council Business – Other Topics for Discussion**

Pastoral Council Structure / State of the Council. Tom commented about how councils are called to become more missionary. Two quotes from Joy of the Gospel (Pope Francis) to consider:

II. Pastoral activity and conversion

27. I dream of a “missionary option”, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation. The renewal of structures demanded by pastoral conversion can only be understood in this light: as part of an effort to make them more mission-oriented, to make ordinary pastoral activity on every level more inclusive and open, to inspire in pastoral workers a constant desire to go forth and in this way to elicit a positive response from all those whom Jesus summons

to friendship with himself.

SPIRIT-FILLED EVANGELIZERS

261. How I long to find the right words to stir up enthusiasm for a new chapter of evangelization full of fervor, joy, generosity, courage, boundless love and attraction!

Yet I realize that no words of encouragement will be enough unless the fire of the Holy Spirit burns in our hearts. A spirit-filled evangelization is one guided by the Holy Spirit, for he is the soul of the Church called to proclaim the Gospel.

- 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. Tom may add additional wording about prayer and discernment.

- iii. Strategic and mission focus – core mission priorities
 1. Liturgy, Welcome, Encounter, Accompany, Sending, Mission Support (by Archbishop Lori)

Process to seat new Council Members (Fr. Andy will lead on this topic) Fr. Andy pleased with changes happening -- council is more missionary focused via the new committees. All still trying to decide on process for seating next Pastoral Council. Archdiocese guidance is to seat via discernment (no parishioner voting, rather, discerning who would best serve the council, roughly based on demographics and/or parish involvement.) Items discussed:

- Typical non-profit board does not hold elections, rather appoints (like a finance person, an admin, etc.)
- Counterpoint – we are not a non-profit board, does the comparison to a non-profit hold?

- If keep general elections process,(i. e. call for nominations) – could selections be based on discernment by council members, rather than parishioner voting (so leaning towards discernment model)?
- Need representation from lower ages groups – singles and young families; these could be appointed. Appointments, by pastor, are for 1 year (perhaps more appealing, just the one year)
- Some parishioners really enjoy the voting process.
- A proposed council seating process: if need 6, vote via general balloting for 3, remaining 3 would be appointed.
- If we use the same process we always have, expect same result.
- If not well known in the parish, people may not vote for you, even if you have the skills/desire to serve (this is a con to the general balloting process).
- Some parishioners don't believe ballots are actually counted—they think council members are simply chosen.
- Consider nomination by others in addition to self-nominating.
- If general balloting, consider appointing or finding spots for those not selected
- When soliciting for nominations, include time commitment

Conducted an informal vote on 1) keeping current process of general balloting; 2) using discernment model; 3) deploy some kind of hybrid model. General consensus seemed to lean toward some kind of hybrid model.

Need to decide before March 17th council meeting. Tom and Paul V. to discuss further offline. Please send suggestions to Tom.

Elections vs. Prayerful Discernment

- i. Process to begin March (Kathy Kraft leading process)
 - ii. Carolyn Sherman, Paul Reif, Paul Venginickal, Dave Lucero – final year
 1. All eligible to run again
- State of the Council - other general items – how do we get better? (ran out of time)
 - i. What is working? What is not working?
 - Other Items Suggested by Father Andy or Council Members (ran out of time)
 - i. Budgets, Fall Festival
- **School Update** (Sara Thomas) No particular issues, but happy to be in the loop and offered HSA support for Fall Fest, in whatever capacity is needed.

- **Actions Needed Resulting from This Meeting:**

- Find designated spot for CAM clipboard (Tom)
- Schedule summer meetings when booking calendar (Tom)
- Discuss Christmas concert décor with Stephen (Cathy P.)
- Re-visit date for next Meet and Greet (Sharon)
- Follow up on trifold with Caroline Resetar (Mike)
- Work with Shannon on Young Adult opportunities (to Mike, as suggested by Tom)
- Work with Kate for listing of small group leaders to send survey (Kevin)
- Description of Pastoral Council – Tom may add additional works about prayer and discernment
- Tom and Paul V. to discuss process for seating of new PC members, offline. Send any thoughts on process to Tom.
- Tom to find councilor for March meeting reflection and prayer
- Tom and Michael discuss with Stephen idea of a volunteer appreciation event with staff talent show or skits or something fun

- **Next Pastoral Council Meeting**

- March 17th @ 6:15pm – St. Paul’s Center for the New Evangelization
- “St. Paul + 60” (730pm to 845pm) voluntary – continue discussion on key issues. Effort to get to all voices and give key items needed time.

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

- **Adjournment** 9:25 pm

Parking Lot for Future Discussion / Specific Action & Owner

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

2. Security monitoring of Church Foyer & Hall during weekend masses
3. Possible Joint Initiatives with St. Paul's Council (Adoration Chapel, Small Groups, New Parishioner Welcome Lunches, Young Adults)