

Church of the Resurrection Pastoral Council Meeting

Tuesday May 19, 2026

6:15pm to 7:30pm – St. Paul, Center for the New Evangelization

P = Present E = Excused

Pastoral Council (voting members)

<u>Member</u>	<u>Status</u>
Kevin Bellamy	E
Michael Cain	P
Pat Cirasole	E
Kathy Kraft (CS)	P
Sharon Lanza	E
Tom Lauer (P)]	P
Dave Lucero	E
Cathy Parrish	P
Paul Reif	P
Carolyn Sherman (RS)	P
Paul Venginickal	P
Brad Weiss (VP)	E
Sara Thomas: (non-voting) School Liaison	P
<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 & 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	Sharon Lanza (Lead) , Pat Cirasole, Carolyn Sherman
Engage & Connect Parishioners	Michael Cain (Lead) Cathy Parrish, Paul Venginickel, Brad Weiss
Small Church Community	Kevin Bellamy (Lead) , 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** (Carolyn Sherman)
4. **April 2026 Minutes** were approved electronically and posted to CoR Website.
5. **President's Comments** – Welcome New Members (Luke Thomas, Sara Thomas, Joseph Welsko, Max Fiallos, Mary Hogan). Four of the five new members were able to attend. Two meetings left (including today) for Carolyn Sherman, Paul Reif, Paul Venginickal and Dave Lucero. Please consider personal thank-you cards or email for outgoing council members for the June meeting. Meeting dates set for next year--Tom will send.
6. **Pastor Report / Update**
 - a. General Updates from Pastor: Happy with direction of parish, will offer comments as agenda proceeds.
7. **Councilor at Mass (CAM)** (Corresponding Secretary)
 - a. Summary Report - Updates & Status. For benefit of new members, Kathy explained function of Councilor at Mass (CAM) – reading announcements at mass and following through with reporting of any issues. Not many issues this past month, just the recurring concern about parking lot lighting. Fr. Andy will revisit with James Dale – are current lights LEDs? Also consider ground lighting along sidewalk outside of Hall doors.
8. **Review of Pastoral Council Priority Committees**
 - a. Welcome, Hospitality, New Families, Young People (Sharon Lanza)
 - Sharon unable to attend; passed along that next New Parishioner Meet and Greet is Sunday July 26th immediately after 11:30 mass. Council members welcome to attend.
 - Resurrection Bumper Sticker – while the prototype looked great, had to put this on hold due to cost.
 - b. Engage & Connect, Volunteers and Brochure (Michael Cain)
 - Mike is still compiling Ministry brochures. Plans to have another planning meeting in mid-June. Still considering an Ice Cream Social in September. Hoping to have another (larger) Ministry Fair at Pentecost 2027.
 - c. Small Church Community (Kevin Bellamy)
 - Kevin unable to attend; Tom shared on his behalf. To create greater collaboration with St. Paul's, Kevin has reached out to Rich Petras (St. Paul) to join the small group committee

and collaborate on SCCs, how to make them successful/lasting. Biggest challenge—how to turn short-term programs/content into lasting SCCs. Surveys from the 7-week Restore (Sr. Miriam) program revealed that 6 people (anonymous) would consider leading a group in the future. Side note: some had hoped that Restore program would have had more bible study.

- Fr Andy plans to have another meeting with Nick Koutrelakos—who is very active at Church of the Nativity in Timonium—to gain insight into Nativity’s extremely successful small group program. Fr. Andy will reach out to Kevin/his committee to see if they would be able to attend next meeting.
- Sidebar: Luke Thomas asked if there are places for small groups to meet here at Resurrection: space is limited (there is space, but many meeting rooms already booked on a regular basis.) Also, some of the Multi-Purpose (MP) rooms currently don’t have screens, which limits small group activities somewhat. Fr. Andy seemed to think there was money to buy screens; will re-visit. Noted that at Nativity, groups meet at homes (rotating homes/hosts). Some Resurrection folks meet at the Bagel Bin here in EC. Fr. Andy offered that there are meeting rooms in Dohony Hall at St. Paul’s, and seem to be quite available.
- Side-Sidebar: Tom: what if there was a Summer Reading List and the various ministries/groups provided input?

9. Review of Standing Committee and Ministry Reports

- a. Fellowship – (Mary Reif) From submitted report: 15 phone calls to new parishioners; always well received; Coffee and Donuts always well attended. 145 at fish supper catered by Kelsey’s!

Reminder about Pentecost Potluck supper Sunday May 24th, at 12:30; also celebrating Fr. Andy’s 30-year anniversary of ordination! (no gifts, please).

Mary found a volunteer to take over Coffee and Donuts beginning in September. We all salute Mary for her amazing generosity of time and talent!

- b. Social Justice – (Peggy Gessler in for John Wilkin) Loves the idea of having next Ministry Fair at Pentecost – we’ve just been filled with the Holy Spirit, now go forth and share with others by volunteering.

Asks council members to support and participate in SJ activities; helps to spread the word to other potential volunteers. Mary Scavilla and Tess (didn’t catch last name) are running this year’s Book Fair – donations: 30/31 May and 6/7 June; need volunteers to sort and organize in preparation for Sale on 13/14 June—Sign-up Genius out next week.

Have started Monthly Prayer Services based on the Pope’s Monthly Prayer Intention. About 50 attended the March prayer service for peace and disarmament. Intention for May service (Thursday, 21 May in the chapel): that everyone might have food. September – for care of water, all of creation. Maybe in December: wealth, and how to use it.

Recent Open Arms evening was well attended; featured the Fr. James Martin film. People wanted time for more discussion.

Sister Parishes: St. Mary's in Palestine – enormous difficulties for Christians living in the Holy Land. Goal is to educate our parish on their needs—situation was recently featured in the bulletin. Held an information session for parishioners – one takeaway was that these Christians are surviving due to coming together as a community. Their biggest ask of us is to make their plight known to our congressmen/women. Possible visit to San Bartolo in El Salvador in February (depending on security situation).

- c. Liturgy – Roy Harris (in person) Used to discontinue 4:30 mass for the summer, but this year will run it all summer.

Ministry fair – 6 people interested as EMHCs and lectors; Helen Gross providing training. Altar servers are needed. Hard to pick them up in the summer, will push in the fall, possibly at ministry fair. Cathy offered to help via pulpit pitch. Sara Thomas can put in school newsletter and school Facebook Page. Pretty good with altar servers for Wednesday school mass; availability sometimes a little harder on weekend masses; helps to have parents engaged to sign them up and get them to mass. Suggestion to make mention at next New Parishioner Meet and Greet (July 26th).

Easter Little White Books were given out in addition to Lenten Little Black Books. Some people felt a little “prayed out” – may still order next year, but fewer. Some longtime key volunteers (Dale Donaldson, Helen Gross) planning to retire/step down fairly soon; starting to parcel out their *many* duties.

Also looking for people to help out at funerals weddings, and baptisms.

LC Budget – asked for increase for flowers – price was artificially low when we were in the tent; flowers just more expensive now.

10. Pastoral Council Business – Other Topics for Discussion

- a. The Role of the Council defined:

Duties of Council Members –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.

- b. State of the Council - other general items – **evolving** from maintenance to mission
 - i. What do we do & how to do it to best serve our pastor / parish?
 - ii. Content of our meetings / our committee work moving forward
 - iii. Outside Committee Reports, how to handle
- c. June 16th Meeting – election of the Exec Committee (President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary (poss new name of Parish Liaison)). Need to have served on the council for at least 1 year.
- d. Guidance Doc Update (Michael Cain) (didn't get to)
- e. CAM training for new councilors—will be offered. Suggestion that when signing up for a mass, don't sign up for the whole month – in order to give more people the opportunity. CAM especially needed at 7:30 mass.
- f. Joint Retreat – will be on June 27^h, however, had to pull back on speaker Tom had arranged for – due to costs. Fr Andy explained that he's met with the Finance Committee twice this month (more often than usual) – utility costs have gone up by about a third, more staff hours; as a result, have to rein some things in. Will use retreat time to work on priorities for the upcoming year, look at what we can do to make our parish grow, review meeting structure for next year.
- g. Ordination Gifting to Priests and Deacons (Cathy Parrish)— Cathy has led this for 2 years; good opportunity for new members. Max Fiallos volunteered. Cathy had drafted up a "how to" and shared it with Max; Luke Thomas to help as well.

11. **School Update** -- HSA rep Sara Thomas (who is also a new council member): offered that the school could put together a basket for Silent Auction at the Fall Fest. Will miss next PC meeting as she will be in Rome!

12. **Actions Needed Resulting from This Meeting:**

- a. Tom will send out July 2026 – June 2027 PC meeting dates/times.
- b. Fr. Andy will revisit parking lot lighting with James Dale. Are current bulbs LEDs (brighter than regular bulbs)? Consider ground-level lighting along sidewalk outside of Hall.
- c. Fr. Andy to invite others (Kevin/his committee) to next meeting with Nick Koutrelakos.
- d. Fr. Andy to revisit purchasing screens for some of the MP rooms.

- e. CAM training for new councilors – not yet assigned.

13. Next Pastoral Council Meeting

- a. June 16 @ 7:45pm – Church of the Resurrection – Large Conference Room

14. Closing Prayer & Blessing – Fr. Andy

15. Adjournment 7:30 pm

16. CNE 207 – 7:45 to 9pm (extra time for additional conversation, no notes)

Parking Lot for Future Discussion / Specific Action & Owner

1. Update Governing Documents (Guidance Document for Pastoral Council)
2. Possible Joint Initiatives with St. Paul's Council (Adoration Chapel, Small Groups, New Parishioner Welcome Lunches, Young Adults)