

Mother of Perpetual Help Parish

Pastoral Council Meeting

Monday, June 2, 2025, 6:00 PM
Notre Dame Room, Parish Center

Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Mother of Perpetual Help Pastoral Council was held in the Notre Dame Room on Monday, June 2, 2025.

Council members in attendance were: Fr Matthew Perumpil, Pastor, Gary Jensen, Council Chair, Sharon Anderer, Karen Brah, Debra Morgan, Don Pederson, Vice-Chair, Dave Shook, and Susan Scharmach, Secretary, and newly elected Harriet Pfersch, Brandon Schwebler, Debra Stenz, and Terra Tirnanic. Also in attendance were Debbie Peterson and John Gomez, Trustees.

Excused were Devan Gracyalny and John Weber.

Also in attendance was Rita Baumann, Communications Coordinator.

Prior to meeting commencement Council held a social to welcome new members and thank our outgoing members.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:21 PM.
2. The Meeting opened with a Prayer for the upcoming feast of the Pentecost which was read by Fr. Matthew.
3. Opening comments – Gary Jensen
 - Welcome aboard to our new Council Members: Harriet Pfersch, Brandon Schwebler, Deb Stenz, and Terra Tirnanic
 - Thank you to Karen Brah, Devan Gracyalny, Dave Shook, and John Weber for their years of service
4. Parish Council Expectations – Gary Jensen
 - Council is not a governing board, we consult with and assist the Pastor
 - We are the ears of the Parish; listen to what the Members are saying
 - Be visible and set an example
 - Pray for guidance
5. Nomination and Election of Officers for the 2025-26 Session – Council Members
 - Role of the officers is to form a collaborative leadership team in partnership with the Pastor
 - Review of the responsibilities of each of the three positions
 - The following were nominated and accepted their positions:

Chairperson	Gary Jensen
Vice-Chairperson	Don Pederson
Secretary	Susan Scharmach

6. Liaison Assignments – Council Members
 - Buildings & Grounds – John Gomez
 - Communication – Susan Scharmach
 - Faith Formation – Brandon Schwebler
 - Finance – Gary Jensen
 - Human Concerns – Deb Stenz
 - Inspiration (Stewardship) – Brandon Schwebler
 - Liturgy – Deb Morgan
 - Parish Engagement Committee (PEC) – Don Pederson
 - School – Gary Jensen/Terra Tirnanic
 - Senior Ministry – Harriet Pfersch
 - Deanery Representative – Gary Jensen
7. Brainstorming – 2025-26 Strategic Planning – Council Members
 - Parishioner Stewardship Initiative
 - Attracting young family efforts
 - Improve unity efforts
 - MQSCA support efforts
 - MPH Day Care potential
 - Accessibility issues
8. Miscellaneous Updates & Information – Gary Jensen
 - 2025-26 add monthly joint committee/staff and liaison presentations at Council meetings
 - Explore/build on MPH Tuition Assistance Program
 - Council Members requested attendance at the Festival Mass with Archbishop Grob
 - Promote and attend Parish Festival; in need of more Volunteers
 - Parish Staff and Leadership Retreat Event
 - Pastoral Council Holiday or Summer Gathering
9. Pastor's Report – Fr. Matthew
Fr. Matthew's Report is attached

The meeting closed with the Mother of Perpetual Help Prayer led by Fr. Matthew.

Thereafter the meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Next meeting: Monday, August 4, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the Notre Dame Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Scharmach

Susan Scharmach, Secretary

Liaison Report Updates

There are no Committee Liaison updates

Pastor's Report

- Grateful to God for the opportunity to shepherd Mother of Perpetual Help as I complete 4 years on June 15th. Also grateful to the guidance and support of the Archdiocese, the leadership team of MPH and love, prayers and support I receive from all our parishioners. As a Catholic parish we are truly a welcoming community of believers offering excellent worship experiences and dynamic ministries.
- Very excited about the new beginning with four new members of the Pastoral Council bringing diversity and experiences from various professional and spiritual backgrounds. Gives me great enthusiasm and hope to guide our parish to be a true witnessing community of our Catholic faith.
- I can feel our parish now has great potential to live out our mission more effectively, caring for one another and spreading the Good News to the larger community. Some key areas of our mission to focus are reaching out to the young families, continuing our growing ministry to the seniors, focusing on Catholic education of our children and youth, helping the vulnerable, poor and marginalized in the community with the robust human concerns team.
- Our upcoming Festival should be a celebration of our Faith and bringing together and fostering our community bond and relationship.
- I entrust all our hopes and aspirations to live our mission under the protection and intercession of our Patroness, Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help.