

Sacred Heart Parish Prescott
Minutes of the Pastoral Council
March 27, 2025, Meeting

Attendees: Martha Lamb, Mark Matthews, Craig Thompson, Jeronimo Penaloza

Absent: Deacon Mark Weber, William Rodriguez, Jim Yates, Jon Gilwee, John Williams

Other Attendees: Fr. Chris, Alma Helms

Call to Order/Opening Prayer:

Martha called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. The opening prayer was prayed by all in attendance.

Minutes Approval:

The Minutes of the February 27, 2025 meeting were approved prior to the meeting via email.

Old Business:

New Parishioners Report: February calls to new parishioners were made by Craig Thompson. He reported that the majority of the calls required his leaving voice messages welcoming new parishioners. He did text several and the few he spoke to were grateful for the contact.

Jubilee Committee Report: Martha reported that the Jubilee Committee met on March 25th. The Church tour guide team has several trained members who have already begun leading pilgrimage tours of our church. They will schedule guides to be available after all Vigil & Sunday Masses for any pilgrims who may be visiting or parishioners who would like to obtain the indulgence by making a "pilgrimage" to our site. Sacred Heart has already received reservations for 4 groups who will be making pilgrimages to our parish. The guide team will have 2-3 guides available to lead these groups on the church tour. A guest book has been purchased for all pilgrims to sign when they visit our parish.

The bus pilgrimages for our parishioners to travel to the other designated pilgrimage sites in our Diocese were announced as follows:

June 20 – St Mary, Kingman; Sep. 19 – St. Anthony Mission, Sacaton; Oct. 19 – Chapel of the Holy Cross, Sedona; Nov. 7 – St. Mary's Basilica & Ss Simon & Jude Cathedral, Phoenix.

The cost for each trip is \$40.00pp, which includes the bus driver's tip. Reservations will be accepted at the parish office beginning Monday, March 31st and will be taken on a "first come, first serve" basis. The bus trips will be advertised on all of the parish's social media pages, flock notes & the bulletin. Additional planning is in process and more detailed information will be provided once it is completed.

The Jubilee Candlelight Concert of Hope will take place in the church on Friday, May 30th from 6pm-8pm. Bonnie Wolff is contacting choirs from Sacred Heart, St. Germaine, St Catherine Laboure and several choirs from neighboring churches. This will be an ecumenical concert and numerous choirs have already responded positively to their participation.

Information on the requirements to receive a plenary indulgence will be posted in our Jubilee corner in the gathering space after Lent.

Parishioner Feedback

Martha asked for any feedback received from parishioners since our last meeting. A parishioner suggested that a sign be placed near the top of the steps inside the front doors indicating the location of the restrooms. After a brief discussion, it was recommended that the idea be implemented.

New Business:

Martha announced that for the first time in several years, our parish will be praying the Divine Mercy Novena beginning Good Friday, April 18th through Saturday, April 26th. The Divine Mercy Devotions will take place, as usual, on Sunday, April 27th at 3:00pm. The times of the daily novena will be published in the bulletin, flock notes & social media.

Parish Manager's Report – Jim Wren

Jim was not able to attend the meeting and provided his written report, which was read by Martha Lamb.

The CDA has raised \$79,000 of the \$175,000 goal so far.

The Lenten Mission with Karlo Broussard was a tremendous success. The Sunday attendance was about 250 with another 100 watching on YouTube. The morning sessions each had about 75 people. Evening sessions each had about 150 people with about another 50 watching online. All feedback was positive. Videos would be available until Friday, March 28th.

The Spring clean-up day will be held Saturday, March 29th from 8am-12N. Lunch will be provided. All council members were encouraged to participate.

The Holy week schedule is posted on the website, Facebook, Flocknotes, bulletin boards, handouts and the bulletin. The major change this year is the Celebration of the Lord's Passion, which will be held at 3pm on Good Friday. The only Stations of the Cross on Good Friday will be on the Courthouse Square at 12noon. We are adding an evening Spanish service on Good Friday.

Easter confessions will be offered on Friday, April 11 at 6pm with multiple priests available.

All staff performance reviews have been completed.

We are on the second version of the budget. Still waiting for salary and benefit changes from the Diocese.

A new portrait of the Sacred Heart of Jesus selected by Fr. Chris has replaced the portrait of St. Anthony Claret in the Sanctuary.

Pastor's Report – Fr. Chris

There will be a blessing of Easter baskets & food on Saturday, April 19th at 10am in the church.

An anonymous parishioner has expressed concerns about the “Birthday & Anniversary” blessings at the Sunday Masses. Fr. Chris requested that a brief survey be included in the weekly Flocknotes to gauge the opinion of the community on the subject.

Fr. Chris expressed concerns at the preparedness of the children in both our school and catechism classes to receive the Sacraments. After some discussion, it was agreed that the religious programs would be reviewed with leaders of the various catechetical ministries to set program goals.

Next Meeting:

Our next regularly scheduled Pastoral Council meeting will be Thursday, April 24th, 2025 at 4pm in the St. Anthony Claret room.

Closing Blessing:

The closing prayer and blessing was given by Fr. Chris. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm.