

**Our Lady of Lourdes Parish  
Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting**



**October 15, 2025**

**In-Person**

**6:00 – p.m.**

**Pastoral Council in Attendance:** Mary Alston, Cory Anshus, Mary Botsford, Jackie Dombrowski, Denise Haussy, Terry Malloy, Cathy Markwiese, Pat McKay, Emerson Porter, Rebecca Porter, Judeen Schulte, Jim Stamatakos, Deb Steppe, Donna Van Wynsberghe (Chair), Barb Webber

**Excused:** Christine Yatchak

**LOLO Annual Operating Year End Budget Summary presentation:** Patricia Fabian

- Patricia highlighted the year-end summary that will be in the next Stewardship mailing. OLOL ended the year in the black, increased our membership, and increased the number of contributing households. Of note is the demographic data at the end.

**Commissioning Ceremony:** New Members Committee (Cory Anshus) led the very moving Commissioning Ceremony.

**Parish Director's Report:**

- The heat in the building will be turned on next week.
- Grateful for the ending part of a bequest we got at fiscal year-end.
- Commitment weekend is coming up-- November 15-16<sup>th</sup>. Deb will be speaking at all Masses, asking everyone to prayerfully consider their financial commitment to OLOL.
- Getting close to hiring a replacement for Maggie Russell.
- Change for Thanksgiving – In lieu of our traditional Mass on Thanksgiving morning, we will be having a prayer service on Monday evening of Thanksgiving week.
- LPI (our bulletin publisher) will be calling current advertisers and prospects to get advertising commitments for the coming year. Barb Webber suggests calling some of the sponsors of Oktoberfest.
- Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 pm Amy Waldoch is offering a Medicare seminar at OLOL.

**Old Business:**

- Spotlight Articles updates: Judeen Schulte will send out reminders for December and January.
- Pastoral Council Membership Roster was updated/corrected for distribution at the November Council meeting.

**New Business: 2025-2026**

- Priorities/goals/vision:
  - Those identified at the May Council meeting are: 1. How can OLOL increase support for All Saints ministry; 2. Is OLOL able to provide a sustainable scholarship to encourage youth participation in the parish; 3. Can OLOL participate in Pride Fest and if so, how?
  - A handout for 2025-2026 centered on: Reaching Out for Deeper Engagement – 1. To Youth and Young Families, 2. As a Missionary parish in our neighborhood as well as Haiti, etc. 3. To New families and 4. As Community-Builders fostering relationships. More discussion and prioritization will take place at the next meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

- Oktoberfest- Thank You! Committee will debrief on October 29. Lots of “joy moments”: More than 400 people at Polka Mass, 325 fish fry dinners sold and 300 lasagna dinners sold (both records). The event has the potential to grow if we have the energy to fuel it.

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- Social Justice –
  - Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>, across the US, there will be public witness re: support for immigrants. In Milwaukee, the event “One Church, One Family” at Cathedral Square Park is 5:30 – 7 pm., supported by the Archdiocese (Bishop Haines will attend).
  - November 2 at Holy Apostles Parish the last session of the Love Your Neighbor Immigration series which includes a Meal/Prayer/Presentation by Fr. Javier Bustos.  
5:30 – 8:00 pm
  - OLOL will be serving at the All Saints meal program throughout the winter. The next serving for OLOL is on November 4.
  - November 15 All Saints Choir will be singing at the 4 pm Mass
- Discipleship Institute (DI)– consult the DI web page.
- Liturgy – Advent evening prayer on the Sundays of Advent will be led by Deb and Deacon Bill.
- Youth Representative:
  - The Archbishop presided over the DSHA all- school Mass and was well received by those in attendance.
  - Fr. Marco is leaving Marquette High, which may affect his ability to help out at OLOL. There is no word on what his next assignment will be.
- Formation- no formal report
- Marketing/Communication – no report

**Dream Time:**

- Perhaps OLOL could establish some kind of relationship with the Congregation of the Great Spirit.
- Terry and Jim are committed to trying to establish a more robust men’s spirituality group/retreat.
- Perhaps OLOL could provide a program to create awareness re: the intersection of 12-step programs and Christianity. (One resource might be Fr. Brian Mason). Also this might be a possibility for a GIFT program
- Perhaps OLOL could establish a well-being and safety committee.
- Perhaps the Council needs to find out what young families and new people want/need. What can we do to make these folks feel valued and heard and cared for?
- Perhaps OLOL could find a way to quantify and report out on all the ways our Human Concerns committee and other committees and the parish at large serves the greater community?
- Perhaps OLOL could establish a Cookie Walk or donation bake sale? How about Fat Tuesday!

The Council will further discuss and prioritize these dreams at a future meeting.

**Next meeting:** November 19, 2025

**Opening Prayer for November meeting:** Cory Anshus (Scripture reflection)

**Closing Prayer:** Deb Steppe

**Respectfully submitted, Cory Anshus**

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