St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
406 East Washington Street
Knox, IN 46534
Rev. Jordan C. Fetcko, Administrator

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – August 20, 2026

Fr. Jordan called the meeting to order at 6pm. Father read the opening prayer—the words of St. Thomas Aquinas.

There were 8 members present: President Mike Yankauskas, VP John Swartz, Cathy Raab, Tom Browne, Vince Rick, Mary Helen Wray, Renee Markovitz, and Bernadette Shonka. Absent were Dave Brown and Catherine Phipps.

We all introduced ourselves and decided who would take today's minutes—for now.

Fr. Jordan's Philosophy of Pastoral Councils: After we described past procedures of the Council under Father Stephen, Fr. Jordan summarized his view of P.C.s. He wants the Parish interested in how the P.C. works—with P.C. meeting minutes published in the church bulletin. The P.C. should work the same way diocesan Deanery meetings work: two-way communication. We give feedback to one another.

Father's Expectations: He wants input from the Council on various practical matters (e.g. holyday Mass schedules). The meetings should not cover matters that could be resolved by email but rather ones that require brainstorming from us as representatives. The traditional "committee" structure will need reexamination. Father demands prudent confidentiality where needed. The question of P.C. member term limits and nominations was discussed.

It was decided that we will have P.C. meetings monthly (for now) on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 PM. The Finance Council will meet on the first Wednesday at 7 PM (with the first one being September 2).

Father will start Adult Faith Formation (named "Fides") weekly, on Wednesdays after the 5 PM Mass, from Labor Day to Memorial Day.

Other Business: Included questions regarding the replacement of the rectory fence, which is in a poor state; Altar & Rosary offering to pay for carpet cleaning in the church; and the replacing of lights in the church—Father's "number one priority" for church maintenance.

Closing prayer at 7:45—a prayer of St. Thomas Aquinas to Mary.

Mary H. Wray, Acting Recording Secretary