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

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – November 11, 2026

Attendees: Fr. Jordan Fetcko, Cathy Raab, Catherine Phipps, Thomas Browne, Mary Helen Wray, Mike Yankaukas, John Swartz

Opening Prayer 7 PM, Mike Yankaukas

Last meeting follow-up: August meeting minutes sent through email. No minutes from the previous meeting.

Financial & maintenance report: Unexpected expense of $2000 to pay a Brightspeed Business bill. This account (ostensibly once used for church wifi) is now deactivated. Closing the account means the elevator emergency call service will be inoperable, therefore a cell-based system is being installed. Lights from hanging fixtures in church will be installed possibly by Thanksgiving by Jason Downs. Mike Yankaukas has offered to help. The rectory fence and trees will be removed at some point, and the fence will be replaced eventually. Exterior church door locks have been replaced and a list of who receives a key is being formulated.

Diocesan and parish mission: "Called to Mission" pastoral letter from Bishop McClory will be presented at Queen of Martyrs, South Campus (formerly Our Lady of Consolation) on Wednesday, December 2, 6 PM. This will be attended by Cathy Raab, Catherine Phipps, and Mike Yankaukas. This pairs well with Fr. Jordan's "four marks of a vibrant parish" bulletins letters (September 2026), especially the mark of "shared leadership," in which Fr. Jordan promotes discerning parishioner gifts to add more leaders to our church. Fr. Jordan wants to apply this teaching to more laity as he forms relationships with the members of the congregation. Cathy will make a list of church needs. Mission statement on website needs development.

Emmaus Conference 2027: August 14, Avalon Banquet Center, Merrillville. This conference presents different topics each year. Attendees may find the topics helpful to parish mission. St. Thomas Aquinas helping with ticket cost.

Civic Holiday (Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and Thanksgiving Day) Masses: Fr. Jordan proposed to preside over a 9 AM Mass rather than earlier Mass on those days; all present agreed.

Mass schedule proposals: for Immaculate Conception: Mon., Dec. 7 at 5 PM; Tues., Dec 8 at 8 AM, 5 PM; for Christmas Eve/Day: Thurs. Dec 24 at 5 PM, 10 PM; Fri., Dec 25 at 9 AM. The proposal was accepted. Fr. Jordan emphasized that he will continue to evaluate and suggest modifying holyday Mass schedules

depending on church needs.

Other business: Catherine Phipps asked if the bulletin is online. The bulletin is on St. Thomas Aquinas website. A QR code is on the back bulletin board. The Facebook page is not currently being updated in any official capacity.

Next meeting: Fellowship outing Wednesday, December 9, 6:15 at a TBD restaurant.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Phipps, Acting Recording Secretary