

PARISH OF SAINT ANN PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

St. Ann Parish – Bethany Beach

April, 13, 2026

Minutes

Attendees/Pastoral Council Members:

Rev. John Klevence, Pastor, Rev Joseph Dovari, Associate Pastor

Cathy Rossi, Lorraine Jordin, Alexis Sclama, Betty Wisgirda

Jared Browne, Tina Gordon (ex-officio), Georgia Bresch

Excused: Maria Collelo

A. Welcome and Opening Prayer – Cathy Rossi

NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION OR ACTION ITEMS

1. Finance Report (Georgia Bresch)
2. Pastor's Report and Update on Feasibility Study (since discussion Feb 6) Feasibility Study for Possible Capital Campaign, Financials, General Status Update

The final proof of the Feasibility Study has been received from CCS and will be reviewed and forwarded to the Diocese for final approval. Council members discussed small changes and approved unanimously. All council members were very pleased with the positive feedback from parishioners for the Parish Center.

3. Status Check / Question/Suggestion Box (Betty Wisgirda)

It was approved that a committee be formed to finalize the **Suggestion Boxes** in the churches. The suggestion box is another form of communication for parishioners and council. The target date for placement is May 15, 2026. Any suggestion from a parishioner **MUST** have their name and some form of contact information for a response. Committee will meet on 4/27/26 @ 3 p.m. to finalize plans.

4. Status Check/ Recruiting Potential New Council Members

There has been some interest from parishioners as well as recommendations from Council members for additional Council members. Council will follow By-Laws, which says, *"In the Spring of each year, an Election Committee of Council will interview interested candidates and after voting, nominate final candidates for consideration to the full body of Council, which vote to ratify the decision"*.

5. Parish "Town Hall" Council

Council decided that a **Town Meeting** would be a good mechanism for communication for the parish. Discussion ensued about advertising and dates. It was determined that June 17th in the evening and June 18th in the afternoon would work for the meeting. The meeting

will include updates on the Capital Campaign, any concerns parishioners may have and the possibility of other ministries parishioners would like to see at our parish.

A new Parish Safety Committee was also discussed and Council will reach out to Ocean View *Police Chief* Ken McLaughlin, who is a parishioner of St. Ann, for follow up on available dates to meet.

6. Parish Goals Discussion

Goals were drafted by each council member and the subcommittee will meet, review and finalize drafted goals which will be discussed at the next Council meeting. Goals will be completed prior to the Town Meeting. The subcommittee meeting will be on May 5 @ 3 p.m.

Parish Mission Statement (for reference)

The Parish of St. Ann is a Roman Catholic Community, united by Baptism and fed by the Word and Eucharist. We worship God, learn and grow, serve our neighbors, rejoice and mourn together. We celebrate God's providence in putting us in this beautiful place and we strive to be people who welcome all.

7. Committee Updates

a. Building and Grounds and St. Vincent de Paul Society (Lorraine Jordin)

Building & Grounds (as per D. Schultz)

- The parish is getting estimates for replacing the HVAC system at OLG
- Trees that were in the back of the parking lot at St. Ann's were severely diseased and a safety concern will be removed.
- Lighting will be added in the back end of the Parish garage to help brighten up the space during the bazaar.
- We are helping SVdP acquire a new shed out at OLG to help with storage outside of the garden area to free up space in the handler room.
- Currently we are scheduled to have an energy assessment done out at OLG by the University of Delaware May 19th. Depending on the finding it could help the church save up to 60% of the cost of replacing the HVAC system.
- Working on getting estimates for the lighting out at OLG to convert to LED.
- Looking into getting estimates to replace the windows on the back side of Delaney Hall.
- Replacing the small room air condition units in the gift shop and the linen room.
- We have had a new Dehumidifier installed to the crawl space in the rectory and new plastic vapor barrier this week.
- In the last week the landscaper has installed 20 new trees to the back of the parking lot.

SVdP

- Food from the Food bank is going well and we are saving near \$6000 a month.
- New Officer: Chris Haynes, new V.P.
- Trivia Night 4/25, sold out!
- Dine & Donate 5/19 at Cottage Café
- Millville Boardwalk Mini Golf Tournament 9/19
- Higgins Crab Feast 10/17
- 4/18/26 Recommitment Mass for SVdP members at the 5:30 mass at OLG.
- **Breaking Bread Fiesta 6/14/26 @ 5 p.m. at OLG.** This SVdP event is all about developing personal relationships with our neighbors that we serve.
- April giving an extra food card due to Parish's generosity at Christmas and School Supply drives.
- February and March Parish SVdP envelopes were allocated to help pay neighbors high electric bills.
- Extended Pantry hours in March and April due to reregistering all families coming to the Pantry.
- Miken informed SVdP when construction starts for Parish Center, it will take 12-15 months to complete. We will be filing grants when construction begins some grant conditions are that the project is completed within a year.
- John Smart a SVdP member is returning to El Salvador to build another \$5500 home which many Vincentians generously helped with donations.
- Wind damage to the SVdP garden greenhouse was fixed. The water system to be upgraded.
- The **Premier Fund Raiser** for Lower Sussex County is now called the **Helping Hands Gala**. It will be held at the *Signatures* restaurant on December 5, 2026. Proceeds will help the Food Bank of Delaware (Milford site) and the Building Fund for St. Ann's Parish Center. The collective ministries of the Men's Club, Knights and SVdP are all working together to reach our goals to help. **SAVE THE DATE: DECEMBER 5, HELPING HANDS GALA @ Signatures, Bayside.** A semi-formal affair which will be the **Premier** event of Lower Sussex County

b. Liturgy Committee (Betty Wisgirda)
Meets in May.

c. Christian Formation, Social Concerns (Tina Gordon)

Important Dates

4/19 Class

4/23 Confirmation Rehearsal 6:00 PM at St. Ann

4/26 Class

4/28 Confirmation 6:00 PM at St. Ann

4/30 First Holy Communion Practice 6:00 PM at St. Ann

5/2 First Holy Communion 12:00 PM at Saint Ann

5/3 May Procession for religious education 9:00 AM at Saint Ann.

Sacraments

5 were Baptized, Confirmed, and received, FHC at the Vigil

20 from Saint Ann and 16 from Saint Luke will receive Confirmation with the Bishop on 4/28, 6:00 at St. Ann. This includes 6 from our OCIA youth program.

27 from Saint Ann and 7 from Saint Luke will receive First Holy Communion on May 2 at Noon at St. Ann

5 adults from our OCIA program will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and/or First Holy Communion on May 17. This includes 7 from our Spanish speaking OCIA program.

Over the summer we will review curriculum and dates for next year.

Always Hope Bereavement Support Group at Saint Ann's Church provides a safe, shared space for people grieving a loss to connect, reducing isolation while meeting with others who understand their pain, showing that they are not alone.

Participants share experiences and coping strategies to deal effectively with their grief. This can help prevent depression and anxiety by building social support and understanding. Group support offers validation, helps members develop new coping skills, and can lead to powerful bonds and a sense of family as they navigate their individual grief journey together offering understanding and HOPE. The bible (Psalm 34:18) shows God's love is near the brokenhearted and blesses those who mourn. Always Hope facilitator Linda Flynn.

d. **Youth Ministry** (Jared Brown)

On Friday, March 27th, the Youth Ministry held an evening showing of the St. Carlo Acutis documentary *Roadmap to Reality*. On April 24th, the Youth Ministry will be hosting an Easter egg hunt for the youth group in the Masterson Center. A second showing of *Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality* will be held on May 3rd at Our Lady of Guadalupe in the vestibule after the 1:00pm Spanish Mass. The Youth Ministry would like to thank St. Ann's Men's Club, Knights of Columbus, and several generous parishioners for donating money to sponsor youths who will be attending Damascus Summer Camp in Emmitsburg, MD. Preparation is moving forward for the St. Ann's Bible Camp in August, and announcements will be coming soon.

e. **Hispanic Community** (Maria Collelo) (absent)

f. **Summer Bazaar** (Alexis Sclama)

Donations begin **5/11/26** and end **7/15/26**. Bazaar workers will begin set up **5/6/26**.

g. **Hospitality Committee** (Cathy Rossi)

- Sunday, April 12-Last donut Sunday of the season.
- Sunday, April 19-Refreshments for Dr. Starke's presentation, (Sr. Loretta) 1:30
- Tuesday, April 28 Confirmation, 6:00pm Mass, set up 6:30
- Saturday, May 2, First Communion 12 noon Mass, set up 12:30
- Sunday, May 3, May procession/Rel. Ed. Closing- 9:00, set up 9:00 also.
- Tuesday, May 5 Hospitality Meeting cancelled.
- Sunday, May 17, OCIA reception, 5 Confirm and, 10:30 Mass, 11:00 set up. Donuts, drinks.
- FYI...Bazaar dates, possible popcorn sales, Wednesday, July 29, 3-6pm, Thursday/Friday, July 30, 31, 9am-4pm, Saturday, August 1, 9 am-12:30 pm.
- Next meeting: June 2, bring your calendars as we will plan for next season

Closing Prayer

Next Meeting: May 18, 2026 @ 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lorraine Jordin