

St. Thomas and St. Clare Pastoral Council Meeting

Date: April 21, 2026

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: St. Thomas Meeting Area

Attendance: Fr. Steve, Ed Leuck (co-chair) Gabe Gotcher (co-chair), Jeff Brekke, Saarh Crupi, Anita Wollmer

Absent: Excused: Mark Beck, Woody Richie, Jim Daniels

Joint meeting Portion:

- Fr. Steve lead with opening prayer.
- Chris spoke about what a blessing it is to have St. Clare selected as a place of pilgrimage during this Franciscan Jubilee year
- Ed highlighted main theme's continuing to take place at the **St. Thomas 175th Jubilee**. They are as follows:
 - Save the date cards sent out for the 6/27 Mass & Dinner event
 - T-Shirt design selected. To be worn at Country Fair, Parade, Service Day, etc.
 - Bob Jones & Jan Schimdt working on task for upcoming service day activities for Adults & youth
 - **Formal Mass & dinner w/ Archbishop, Saturday June 27th**
 - 300 tickets max
 - \$20 per ticket for parishioners
 - Country Fair: St. Tomas Reunion, Thursday June 4th. Loads of fun!
 - Museum & history fun facts in gathering space. Thanks Bob!
 - Christmas ornament mock-up being led by Tammy
- STA Country Fair is coming soon, June 4th-7th. Much help needed. Please Volunteer!
- **Spring concert: Sunday evening May 3rd @ 6:30PM @ St. Thomas.** Katie has the choir working very hard and it should be a great event.
- Chris brought up the idea of the P.C. serving beer one night at the Country Fair. Will look into this but maybe to late as these slots go quickly

St. Thomas Focused meeting: (beginning at 6:50 pm)

- **Continuing business:**
 - **Kitchen & event center addition updates: 3 basic options (Ed highlighted):**
 1. Build out just kitchen where stage is currently located (\$550-\$650K). This would currently require no fund raising
 2. Kitchen buildout & gym HV/AC, flooring, painting, etc.. (~1M) This project would require fund raising, not possible until 2027+
 3. Kitchen buildout, gym HV/AC upgrades & added event center (2.7M – 3.5M)
 - **Old church demolition updates:**
 - Fr. Steve commented that during the Catholic Mutual review they see STA as being on the hook for any mishaps that could take place even though separate entities exist
 - Ed added comments regarding 4/9 meeting with newly formed **Waterford Area Heritage Center**, STA team & Fr. Nate Reesman
 - WAHC team has been busy putting together marketing materials describing their mission, vision along with pictures
 - The village of Waterford most likely would allow splitting off parcel but still needs formal approval
 - Fr. Nate strongly urged that all discussions around this topic be kept separate. So, what WAHC is doing is completely on their own and has nothing to do with St. Thomas
 - Fr. Nate indicated that the archdiocese would want all local due diligence to have been completed before applying to the Arch for project approval (i.e. zoning, parcel split & platted, assessed value, legal paperwork, et)
 - Fr. Nate thought it would be a good idea for both groups to continue working toward targets and get into the new year 2027. Earliest we could start any fund raising for church demo would not be until February 2027 due to on-going Love One Another campaign
 - P.C. needs to set firm dates & milestone goals with WAHC team
 - **WAHC team needs to get out and start a feasibility drive** to see if there is really an appetite to support initial & on-going funding for this project

- **New Business:**
 1. Committee Reports:
 - **Building & Grounds (Ed):**
 - Old Church – Previously highlighted
 - New kitchen updates - Previously highlighted
 - Leak in gutter on rectory side. Will leave for now
 - Sidewalk leveling around campus to start once weather & contractor is available
 - Fix internet around campus buildings. Recent issue at Blood Drive where it would not work causing ~1hr delay in process.
 - Add new security cameras once internet is solid
 - **Faith Formation (Sarah):**
 - Maureen was very pleased with this year’s participation
 - Approximately 20 candidates confirmed
 - Working on upcoming mission trip
 - Ed highlighted that P.C. meeting minutes are now being published on the St Thomas web site under: St.Thomas/Parish/Parish Leaders/See applicable minutes
- News From Pews: Nothing new to report
 - May 3rd Choir concert
 - June 5th St. Thomas School Reunion at first day of St. Thomas fair
 - June 27th Mass with Archbishop Grob presiding
- **Next meeting is May 19, 2026 @ St. Clare**
- **Team ended meeting at 7:30 pm with prayer**