

St. Thomas and St. Clare Pastoral Council Meeting

Date: May 19, 2026

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: St. Clare

Attendance: Father Steve, Ed Leuck (co-chair) Mark Beck, Jeff Brekke, Jim Daniels, Brian French, Woody Richey, Sarah Crupi, Anita Wollmer

Joint meeting Portion:

- Fr. Steve led joint council in opening prayer.
- Ed highlighted events of 175th year Jubilee including:
 - Choir concert was well received with almost 600 attendees
 - Ticket sales for June 27th dinner have started with 80 tickets sold already
 - First day of fair, Thursday June 4th – St. Thomas school reunion
 - Christmas ornaments are planned for sale later in the year
 - Plans are under way for a float for the July 4th Waterford parade
- Planning for St. Thomas Picnic continues with strong need for volunteers
- Fr. Steve highlighted that at the recent Archdiocese meeting there was 269 priests in attendance which is more than the prior year. A focus of the meeting was the intention to create a registry highlighting a moment in history from each parish in the diocese.
- The joint council thanked Chris Lechinski and Jeff Brekke for completing their second 3-year parish council commitment. Both St. Thomas and St. Clare need new parish council members with request for names by August, so they can participate in discernment prior to the September parish council meeting.

St. Thomas Agenda (6:55 pm):

- Woody reviewed progress on progress on new kitchen.
 - Pricing from General Contractor is expected within the week. Parish has requested pricing for three different alternatives including Kitchen only, Kitchen and gym updates, and separate events center.
 - Upon receipt of quotes, final decision will be made on how to approach and then Fr. Steve will proxy the right for diocesan review.

- Ed reviewed current progress by the committee to save the old church.
 - Group includes Waterford Area Heritage Committee
 - Council agreed to allow group to have a banner at the St. Thomas fair which makes clear it is independent of St. Thomas Parish. The banner will have a QR code that will provide more information about the project.
 - Council will meet with group on June 15th to review the group's expectations of the quarterly funding thresholds for their project to continue.
- Father Steve ended meeting at 8 pm with prayer.