Holy Family Parish Council/Commissions Meeting
Minutes

Date:	**February 5, 2026**
Time:	**6:30 PM – 7:30 PM**
Location:	**St. Mary's Education Center**

Attendees:

Liturgy	Faith Formation	Church/Parish Life	Justice, Peace & Social Action	Stewardship/ Evangelization	Family Life & Vocations
X Barb Simon SM Kim Cranston HT Nicole Slaubaugh SJ	X Mary Ruth SM X Valli Ruggiero, HT Angie Goodwin SJ	X Regina Snyder SM Marianne Schlabach HT X Cathy Conway SJ	X Peggy Bush SM Sandy Marner HT X Carolyn Rourke SJ	X Dan Snyder SM X Rollin Secrest SJ X John Bush HT	X Jessica Watts SM X Paige Cortum SJ X Maggie Ockenfels HT

Also in attendance: Bobbie Rose, Julie Adam, John Conway

Lay Directors:

Dee Simon, Lay Director	Junell Duwa, Lay Director

Staff:

X Rev. Benjamin Snyder, Pastor	X Deacon Derick Cranston, Pastoral Associate	
X Tami Plank, Financial Secretary	X Jane Duwa, Business Administrator	Angie Goodwin, Youth Minister/DRE

Opening Prayer

Deacon Derick opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of November 13, 2025 minutes for Holy Family Parish Council/Commissions Meeting

Dan Snyder made a motion to approve the November 13, 2025 minutes for the Holy Family Parish Council/Commissions meeting. Barb Simon seconded the meeting. Motion approved.

Approval of agenda

Pastor's Report

Father Ben introduced Maggie Ockenfels, who is the Family Life & Vocations Commission head for Holy Trinity. Maggie told a little bit about herself and family. They have been serving donuts after Mass at Holy Trinity for the past month and beginning this Sunday will be moving to the Parish Life Center so that people can sit and have fellowship following Mass. Area for kids to play and will have toys for the kids to play with. Will be looking for volunteers to help on Sundays.

Father Ben was on retreat the last week of January. Father feels very settled in and getting to know people. Wants team effort and communication is the key. There will be Stations of the Cross during Lent on Wednesdays; SJ – 6:30 pm; HT – 6:30 pm; SM – 7:00 pm. Faith Formation classes will sign up to help at SM. There will not be a communal penance service during Lent, Father have extra reconciliation times during Lent.

Vocations committee - Ms. Greenwald from Texas brought information to help set this up. The committee met on February 3rd, 2026. Committee members are Jesse & Megan Hammes, Kathy Lamping, John & Cathy Conway, Dan & Regina Snyder. First Vocation Event is March 10th Holy Hour from 5:30 – 6:30 pm at Holy Trinity followed by a potluck. Will be getting others to help.

Seminarians – help support by picking up a card, praying for them, sending them cards and gifts.

Commission Updates

Stewardship/Evangelization Commission

Faith Formation Commission

Liturgy Commission

Church/Parish Life Commission

Justice, Peace, Social Action Commission

Family Life and Vocations Commission

Finance

ADA 2025-2026

Goal - $55,942.00

Total Pledged - $49,188.00

Upon This Rock

Soft Campaign

$94,322.50

Cemetery

Next Meeting

May 7, 2026 at 6:30 pm at St. Mary's Education Center

Closing Prayer

Father closed the meeting with a prayer.

Liturgy Commission:

Faith Formation Commission:

- Christmas programs at both Holy Trinity and St. Mary's were well attended by members of the parish. The students were involved in very nice productions.
- Received 100 Rosary booklets that were ordered. These were distributed to Religious Education students at all 3 churches. More can be ordered if desired.
- Valli & Mary discussed setting up a Google Drive for religious education teachers from all three churches to share ideas and information. John Bush & Deacon Derick are already working on a Holy Family Google Drive.
- Faith Formation pancake breakfast will take place in Riverside on February 15th. All proceeds go towards the Religious Education program for Holy Family.
- There will be a First Communion retreat on March 14th.
- St. Mary's religious education classes have been invited to attend and participate in Stations of the Cross. Signup sheet for classes and students to participate will be created
- If we are planning to start using a new curriculum in 2026-2027, we need to get organized and start reviewing the different planes.

Church/Parish Life Commission:

- February 15th – Breakfast for the Faith Formation – silent auction for 4 pork loins & other items donated
- March 10th – 5:30-6:30 Holy Hour for Vocations at Holy Trinity Parish Hall. Potluck afterwards. We will supply the meat.
- March 21st – St. Patrick's Day potluck after Mass, 6:30 pm at St. Joseph's
- March 22nd – St. Patrick's Day potluck after Mass at St. Mary's. Will have bingo after the potluck.
- April 5th – After Mass – Holy Trinity will have small Easter baskets for the kids
- April 5th – After Mass – St. Mary's will have Easter egg/candy hunt
- May 24th – Pentecost – desserts at all churches
- June 13th – Family fun for all at Dan & Gina Snyder's, 2930 105th Street, Riverside, IA, bring a dish – meat will be provided

Justice, Peace & Social Action Commission:

- Rosary Project – we talked about different ways we can promote the rosary. Nothing determined yet, but discussing our options.
- Thanksgiving Community Dinner – We served 460 people and had $5,760 in donations. We had great help, but number served continues to grow. We have people from our parish and community help with the dinner. Spoke to the Mid-Prairie Council of Churches representative and will work with them next year and maybe get additional volunteers next year.
    - Donations - $5,7,60
      $1600 – Kalona Food Pantry
      $1350 – Riverside Food Pantry
      $1350 – Wellman Food Pantry
      $1460 – Catholic Worker House
    - So many thankful people who attend our dinner. One of my favorite stories from the day was a gentleman I spoke to who wanted to thank us for the dinner. The day prior, he talked to his brother and they both realized they were both coming to the dinner. They decided a time to meet so they were able to enjoy the Thanksgiving meal with each other.
- HACAP Christmas Toy Drive – We had great turnout for the Angel Tree. They were provided to HACAP which use them for families for Christmas and other events. Very thankful for the generosity of our Parish!
- Bobbie Rose reported on the Holy Family Food Pantry.

Stewardship/Evangelization Commission:

- KMHV station promotion update. We received 2 anonymous donations for $5,000 & $10,000. Thank you to those who donated
- We're still looking for ways to promote each commission. Please advise if there's any way we can help. Liturgy promotion from the pulpit still pending. Planning on after CEW weekends.
- We'd like to encourage each commission to expand the idea of church with each commission member and fellow parishioners beyond weekly services to promote the idea that stewardship as a way of life and part of being a community. In addition to time and talent, we are also called to stewardship of our treasures. We are well taken care of with the simple conversations to fan the flames of community.
- We're still looking for ways to promote the Divine Mercy Chaplet after Mass. Still open for discussion and solutions.

Family Life & Vocations Commissions: