

MINUTES for PPC MEETING: December 10th, 2025

Members Present: Father Jim, Uduak Akpan, Mary-Lou Veecken, Natalie Lavigne, Deacon Lynn Pion, Sue Szojka, Aoife Cahill, Bridget Kenny, Tracy Lockhart, Rita Sandmaier, and Helen Doyle. **Regrets:** Rod Randolph and Wally Sagansky

AGENDA ITEM

LEADER

REF#

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>LEADER</u>	<u>REF#</u>
1. Opening Prayer/Gospel Reflection	Tracy	<u>1</u>
2. Review and Approval of Agenda : the agenda was approved as distributed	Uduak	<u>2</u>
3. Review and approval of Minutes : The minutes were approved as distributed	Uduak	<u>3</u>
4. Pastor's Opening Comments : Father Jim advised that we continue to be a very busy parish, with all 10 Catholic Schools coming here for Advent events in December. Our new Archbishop, Stephen Hero will be installed at the Basilica on January 23, 2026; each parish will be limited to 2 guests for the installation	Father Jim	<u>4</u>
5. Ministry Liaison: What have you heard? Sue advised that the Liturgy Committee is recommending that leaders of Ministry Liaison groups participate in GIFT courses, share that information with others, and encourage them to get involved as well. a) All Others: N/A b) Correspondence: Father Jim advised that he received a very generous cheque from a parishioner for repairs to the roof	Sue Uduak Father Jim	<u>5</u>
6. Action items a) What has been completed? 4 items on the list have been completed and will be deleted; the remaining 2 items will remain on the list.	Uduak	<u>6</u>
7. Generative Discussion: In line with our Parish Pastoral Priorities, what spiritual activities should we plan for the current liturgical year? The consensus was that we continue our focus on being a Compassionate Parish; one recommendation was that we could look at having a bus pick up people for Masses- we had a similar service in the past; another idea was to ensure that people are aware of current services in the community e.g. the mobility bus; we could revive the Pastoral Visitor's program whereby parishioners can receive Holy Communion in their homes. Bridget agreed to contact the county re access to the mobility bus, and to get info on the previous program of taking Holy Communion to shut-ins. We could also consider supporting families throughout the year with food and other necessities. A note in the Bulletin re adopting a family to support would likely ensure that families in need are taken care of, and provided with basic necessities. throughout the year, Decision was to continue this discussion at our meeting in Jan. as it fits into our Pastoral Priority of service to marriage and families and builds on our relationship with ABJ, thereby expanding our outreach..	Uduak	<u>7</u>
8. New Business: a) Parish Census: Father Jim advised that he did a report for the archdiocese; we had 1200 responses to the census; our goal is to ensure that information we have is current. b) Praesidium Academy Training: Sue advised that all volunteers require the first 3 courses, and she feels that most volunteers will complete those in 2026. c) Parish Sacrificial Giving: It was moved by Sue and seconded by Mary-Lou that PPC ratify the decision taken by OLPH in the amount of \$2,600 from the PSG funds to Lac Ste Anne Catholic Church for the purchase of a used golf cart; motion carried. It was moved by Sue and seconded by Deacon Lynn that PPC ratify the decision taken by OLPH for the donation of \$2,000 from the PSG funds to ABJ for their Baskets of Joy Christmas Hampers Program. Motion carried.	Father Jim Sue Sue Sue	<u>8</u>

<p>d) Senior’s Housing Project: Father Jim advised that we will have more information on this issue in the new year and will advise the parish when that information is available.</p> <p>9. Standing Reports:</p> <p>a) CWL: Mary-Lou advised that: the annual meeting was held on Nov. 10th, CWL made donations of \$18,000 for the year, Dorothy Sutton and Teresa Pinkoski laid the CWL wreath at the County’s Remembrance Day service at Millennium Place on Nov. 11th, K of C and CWL Memorial Mass was held on Nov. 13th, Grey Cup Pool ticket winnings were distributed on Nov. 16th, Masses with CWL intentions and hosted Holy Hour on Nov. 17th, provided sandwiches for Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples on Nov. 20th, 4 greeting cards were sent to members in Nov. for events of note, one Mass was offered, honour guard was provided for Leona Curle’s funeral on Nov. 29th, Christmas dinner was held on Dec. 1st, with 55 members</p>	<p>Father Jim</p> <p>Mary-Lou</p>	
<p>present, prayer partners were exchanged, Mischa Taillon, Adopt-a-seminarian spoke on his vocation journey, gifts and donations were collected for Our Lady of Grace Program for parenting teens, promoted Development and Peace “Turn Debt into Hope” Advent campaign with a display table in the foyer, and provided hospitality for Pastoral Priorities Sunday on Dec. 7th after the 7PM Mass.</p> <p>Upcoming CWL Events:</p> <p>Masses with intentions and host Holy Hour on Dec. 17th, and annual general meeting, with elections and budget 2026 will be held on Jan. 12th, 2026.</p> <p>b) Knights of Columbus: Father Jim advised that: K of C will hold a Valentine’s event on Feb. 14th, 2026, they sold raffle tickets for grocery vouchers at all Masses last weekend, and they’re looking at sponsoring a faith formation program here for men.</p> <p>c) Liturgy: Sue advised that: Liturgical Ministers shared their ministry updates at the November meeting, coordinators are taking all 8 Praesidium Training courses and sending info to their groups to complete the first 3 courses, some ministries require a police intervention check and the required forms are available at the office, coordinators are adding Liturgical Ministry Protocol documents to olph.ca for ease of reference, planning is underway for Advent, Christmas, and New Year’s Masses, including Simbang Gabi Masses at 5:30AM from Dec. 16th-Dec. 24th, and coordinators are creating info for recruitment on the AV screens prior to the Masses. This information will also be included in the Christmas Bulletin</p> <p>d) Finance/Parish Business Report: Tracy advised that: \$19,680 of the PSG funds has been allocated, Father Jim will give grocery gift cards to the staff, members are reminded to complete the required Praesidium courses, the Sacristy renewal project will start in Jan-goal of being completed by Easter, replacement for the automated controls in the mechanical system will be done early in 2026, and the leak in the baptismal font will be repaired soon.</p> <p>e). Parish Team Update: Parish School Relations: 1 and 2: Natalie advised that: Carol Brassard is on medical leave, we’re still waiting for the arrival of our priests from India, limited school visits due to shortage of priests, but Father Jim was able to spend time with a group of grade 12 students from ABJ at their retreat at Birch Bay Ranch, all Catholic Schools in Sherwood Park have Advent events at OLPH during Dec: Dec.8th-St. Theresa Catholic Middle School, Dec. 9th-Chrsterton Academy of St. Isidore, Dec. 10th-Ecole Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Dec. 10th-St. Luke Catholic School, Dec. 11th-Holy Redeemer Catholic School, Dec. 15th-Madonna Catholic School, and Dec. 18th-St. Nicholas Catholic School; special thanks to Rita Sandmaier and Bob Gerow for their help with AV to assist with the school events.</p>	<p>Father Jim</p> <p>Sue</p> <p>Tracy</p> <p>Natalie</p>	<p>9</p>

<p>3) Sacraments and Funerals: 59 youth received their First Holy Communion as of the end of Nov., 37 youth received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Dec. 7th, 94 children were baptized here in 2025, supporting 42 couples preparing for marriage/con-validation so far this year, 28 weddings, including 4 con-validations in 2025, and 54 funerals so far in 2025.</p> <p>4) Youth Ministry: OLPH youth gatherings continue the 2nd Friday of every month, youth will volunteer in ministries on Dec. 12th and have a social after the evening Mass, 22 youth are registered for the ELEVATE Conference on Jan. 31st, and Face-to-Face Ministries will offer a youth day camp from July 21st-23rd, 2026.</p> <p>5) Other Parish Activities/Events/News: Parish Potluck and family dance was held here on Nov. 22nd, First Sunday hospitality continues to be popular, Simbang Gabi Christmas Novena Masses will be from Dec. 16th-24th, Day of Confessions will be on Dec. 20th, several Masses will be offered during Christmas/New Year's, and adoration will be throughout the night on Dec. 31st</p> <p>Father Jim advised that the schools have a condensed version of the RCIA program for teachers who are not Catholic and hope to receive them into the church at a Mass in the new year.</p> <p>f) Pastoral Priorities Plan: Rita advised that: Members of the committee were invited to discern serving as OLPH's Synod champion, representing OLPH at virtual meetings, achievements for year 1 were reviewed and priorities were set for year 2, among them: strengthening apologetics on the Eucharist, planning a parish mission, have a speaker on MAID for OLPH, development of educational approaches for Eucharistic adoration, supporting married couples and families, providing prayer resources for home use, and deepening support for RCIA participants.</p> <p>g) Other Business: Uduak advised that she spoke with a parishioner re having the Legion of Mary program at OLPH; a parishioner also spoke to Father Jim about this program; it was suggested that we could have a brief presentation on this after Sunday Masses in January; include this issue to discuss at meeting in January</p> <p>10. Wrap-up:</p> <p>a) Challenges and Blessings:</p> <p>b) Next PPC Meeting: January 14th, 2026-6:30PM</p> <p>c) Closing Prayer:</p> <p>d) Adjournment-meeting adjourned at 8:30PM</p>	Natalie	
	Natalie	
	Father Jim	
	Rita	
	Uduak	
	Uduak	<u>10</u>
	All	
	Uduak	
	Father Jim	
	Uduak	

ACTION ITEMS

Date	Action Item	Person Responsible	Due Date	Status	Date Completed	Comments
October 8th, 2025	Review the Constitution and bring any comments to PPC	All	April, 10 th , 2026			
March 12 th , 2025	Look for opportunities to be a Compassionate Parish	All	Continuing			
Dec. 10 th , , 2025	Check with County re Mobility Bus for OLPH, and get info on taking Communion to shut-ins	Bridget	January 10 th , 2026			
Dec. 10 th , 2025	Include discussion re Legion of Mary in January agenda	Uduak	Jan. 14 th , 2026			