

Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Attendees: Fr. Joe Connelly (Pastor), Mike Braun (Deacon), Steve Sims (Trustee), Matthew Amos, Lourdes Rivera, Marymartha Heasley, Pat Dolan, Cara Barone (via Zoom), Jonathan Amos (via Zoom), Debbie Stadt.

1. Call to order: 5:15 P.M.
 2. Opening prayer led by Fr. Joe honoring the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the Memorare.
 3. Input from Parishioners: Nothing was reported.
 4. Feedback on JOC (Justice & Outreach Ministry) Because of the many programs Guardian Angels is involved with, it works out well to send information out ahead for the Council to look over and address any matters at the meeting. (See the attachment submitted by Terry Quinn.)
- Faith Formation review:
- Lukas and Andy were present at the meeting. They gave an excellent overview of all the Faith Formation programs and activities that are planned for the coming year. There are many rich and exciting opportunities for spiritual growth at Guardian Angels.
5. Engagement Commission: The next New Parishioner Brunch will be held November 8th, with approximately 25 families attending. The interviews for the recipient(s) of the October Angel Award are underway.
 6. Archbishop's letter discussion of Sections 5 & 6: It was suggested that schools need to perhaps go more "low tech" and consider limiting computer access. Because there is so much misinformation and artificial intelligence these days, schools are beginning to check resources more thoroughly. As a parish, we need to build up more community by talking with people after mass and garner relationships. The question arose as to whether Guardian Angels should have a cell phone policy with Faith Formation. Lukas commented that they did implement it with RISE, and it worked out well.
 7. Chesterton Academy update: The next step will be a meeting with the Archdiocese College of Consultors on September 22. The purpose of the meeting is to affirm the relocation of the Chesterton Academy from their Stillwater facility to Guardian Angels. Fr. Joe will be in attendance at this meeting.

8. Sanctuary updates: The remodeling process continues with selecting tiles, colors and materials needed for the project. Ongoing meetings will be scheduled with Scarfone and Associates to tend to the many details associated with remodeling the sanctuary as well as meeting spaces in the lower level that will be available when school is in session.

9. Staff updates:

-August 21st was Pat Ryan's last day at Guardian Angels. We thank him for all his work while serving as Business Administrator.

-Franklyn Busby was hired as the new Music Director. He is a talented musician with a rich musical background.

10. Other additions:

New residents in the area were mailed a post card recently telling them about Guardian Angels Catholic Church. A QR Code on the card, along with our e-mail address serve as a way for people to gain more information and ask further questions. When people come to register they will be asked what drew them to our parish. That will be one way of noting the success of sending the post cards.

11. The meeting ended with the Glory Be, led by Fr. Joe

12. Next Meeting: October 13th, 2026 at 5:15 P.M.

Respectively Submitted,
Debbie Stadt