

Holy Guardian Angels Roman Catholic Church

Date: 11/17/25

Time: 6pm

Location: Social Hall

Led by: Wendy Freeman

1. Opening Prayer (3 minutes)

- **Led by:** Shannon
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2. Attendance & Welcome (5 minutes)

- Roll call / sign-in
- Welcome
- **Absent:** Kelli Glembocki
- **Approval of last meeting's agenda:**
 - Sent September 26th — **Approved**

3. Pastor's Report (10 minutes)

Next Generation Parish

- We are 1 of 6 parishes in the diocese selected for Next Gen Parish.
- Currently in the implementation phase of a 2-year process.
- Ongoing missionary disciple training.
- Next Gen Parish conducts periodic check-ins; our parish is the furthest ahead among all six.
- No pressure for rapid movement; full rollout for others begins around April/May.
- Evangelical Catholics have previously provided development support.
- Faith development phase will follow the missionary disciple training.
- CLI provides training and presentations outlining next steps.
- Goal: involve as many ministry leaders as possible in these sessions.
- Main focus: building engagement and fostering a culture of evangelization, connection, and hospitality.

Parish Census

- Distributed in August; seeking improved response rate.
- Simplified option provided (“information unchanged—check box”).
- Need stronger participation.
- Mass attendance over the last 6 weeks:
 - 964, 997, 927, 949, 1,021, 990
- Approaching the 1,000 mark consistently as we move into Advent and Christmas.
- Census data will help measure engagement and identify parishioner connections.
- The implementation team is developing new strategies for engagement.

Increase Offering Campaign

- Initial hesitancy from Finance Council; some assumed it was only a mailed card.
- Weekly analytics provided; strong overall results.

Root A — Major Donors (\$1,300+)

- 146 households
- 96 responses (66% response rate)
- 21 one-time gifts
- Increase: from \$250,000 to \$293,000 (+14%)

Root B — \$0.01 to \$1,299.99

- 672 households
- 207 responses (31% response rate)
- 38 one-time gifts
- Increase: from \$133,000 to \$212,000 (+59%)

Overall

- 818 total donor households
- 37% total response rate
- 59 one-time gifts
- \$115,000 total increase (+\$7,000 in one-time gifts)
- Many on fixed incomes give generously; some with greater means do not.
- Not intended to pressure parishioners — deep gratitude for all who give.
- Over \$100,000 received in untaxed giving that may not have been obtained otherwise.
- Donation tracking via envelopes remains the primary method.
- Discussion about tracking special donations (events, flowers, etc.); they are included on tax statements when applicable.

True Parish Count Discussion

- Approx. 1,900 families engaged at least once yearly out of ~3,300 on the books.
- Rachel and volunteers continue refining census accuracy.
- High volume of mail-ins sometimes returned; calling lists planned.

Liturgical Season

- Advent and Christmas planning underway.
- Encouragement for ministries to integrate liturgical themes into all activities (social, spiritual, educational).
- The parish calendar supports coordinated invitations and involvement.

Catechetical Formation

- Increasing formation offerings.
 - Emphasis on “you cannot give what you do not have.”
 - Even attending one of eight sessions is meaningful; members are encouraged to invite others.
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4. Old Business / New Business

SWOT Feedback

- Positive experience reported.

Safe Environment

- Kari was praised for her exceptional work.
- Anyone involved with youth or vulnerable adults must obtain clearances.
- Applies to Youth Ministry, PREP, CYO roles, homebound ministry, etc.
- In-person session scheduled for December 13, 9am–12pm.
- Social media policy must be signed.
- Badges/lanyards to confirm compliance at events.
- Kari tracks all expirations and receives notifications.

Phone Script (Upcoming Project)

- Will be shared via email.
- The volume of calls is too large for one person — the parish council may assist.
- Focus areas: stewardship fair and new parishioners.

Girl Scouts Discussion

- Safe environment concerns flagged regarding a troop leader.
- After concerns were raised, the leader left a letter, keys, and indicated the troop would no longer use parish facilities.
- Issue: parishioners and school families are part of that troop.
- Any group using parish facilities must meet parish compliance standards, even if they have their own.
- Suggestion: implement a policy that unsponsored groups cannot be promoted or affiliated.
- Council supports enforcing compliance requirements.
- Next step: Father and Kari will consult the diocese.

5. Committee Reports (3–5 minutes each)

Education

- Strong response rate from ministries.
- Strengths: faith-centered mission, consistent processes, well-represented leadership.
- Weaknesses: staffing shortages, communication gaps, limited funds.
- Actions: small improvements, modeling successful practices.
- Threats: family engagement, secular pressures, shifting demographics.

Social Concerns & Outreach

- Covers four groups.
- Strengths: diverse missions, strong pro-life involvement, bereavement growth, P2P stability, SVDP strong core team.
- Weaknesses: funding limits, difficulty obtaining addresses, leadership gaps, facility limitations (stairs).
- Actions: planning meetings, training, encouraging volunteers, parish nurse involvement.
- Threats: political climate of pro-life events, volunteer availability, crisis-intervention awareness.

Evangelization

- (AJ will provide a detailed report separately.)

Liturgy

- New committee with many additions by Fr. Rienzo.
- Reviewed the previous quarter, identified improvements.
- Advent planning underway; strong collaboration from Fr. Rienzo and Kolbe.
- Growth in devotions and new liturgical initiatives.

Pastoral Outreach

- Strengths: dedicated core volunteer groups; some ministries gained members through events.
- Weaknesses: need more volunteers; smaller ministries feel isolated; desire more coordination; Youth Ministry needs more support.
- Actions: membership drives, “bring a friend,” TikTok/social media use.
- Threats: volunteer burnout, paperwork, limited time/resources, apathy.

Next Meeting Date: February 23rd at 6pm.

Adjournment Time: 7:20pm
