

St. Catharine of Siena Church  
4975 Boyertown Pike  
Reading, PA 19606

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, January 14, 2025

**Attendance:** Fr. Brian Miller, Paul R. Bassler, Karen McDevitt, Lisa Siciliano - Secretary, Deanna Stratton, Cynthia Waldman, Tim Waldman, Michael Wertz, and Marci Zambito - DRE Ex-officio member

**Absent:** Michael Balla - Chair, Father JV, Lisa Ianni, Merrick Plaisance, and Deacon John Stapleton

**Opening Prayer:** Father Miller

**Old Business:**

**Review the Success of Recent Events:**

- **Advent Reflections and Evening Masses:** Advent reflection events for the men and women were successful and the extra evening masses during Advent attracted parishioners who are not regularly at daily Mass.
- **Parish Survey - Catholic Leadership:** Father Miller noted that we are in Phase 1 and the project is going well.
- **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** Father Miller and the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee continue to meet to plan special ways to celebrate St. Catharine's all throughout 2025 as our Parish observes its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. In addition to Mass celebrated by Bishop Schlert on May 18<sup>th</sup> and by visiting Priests at other times, there is a Parish retreat with guest speakers tentatively planned for April 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at Mariawald in Shillington; family night; food truck night; trip to Italy in October; a Priest Appreciation dinner in October; dinners delivered to the elderly in November; a special newsletter; St. Catharine's items to purchase; and a new picture directory including photos from the special events in 2025.
- **By-Laws Revision: Is in progress.**

**Committee Updates:**

- **Communications:** Father Miller is working to create a job description and budget to try to hire a part-time or full-time communications director to assist the Parish, but implementing this is on hold based on other priority projects.

- **Facilities:** HVAC units are being replaced. The final units are due to be installed soon. Mold remediation work is being done at the convent. The replacement lights are in, but their installation in the Church is delayed while plans are being made for a special lift that needs to be used. The lights that are out will be replaced as soon as an appropriate lift is available as well as work done to the ceiling tiles.
- **Faith/Spiritual:**
  - Father Miller reported that a large number of Parishioners took advantage of the extra confession opportunities during Advent. During Lent, there will be confession opportunities at HGA on Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup>, at St. Catharine's on Monday April 14<sup>th</sup>, and at St. Ignatius on Tuesday April 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Deanna Stratton reported that the committee has been very busy. For the second year, a Christmas book with an insert detailing upcoming Parish events is planned to be gifted to Parishioners. St. Catharine's has started a Millions of Monica's group to pray for those who may have abandoned their Catholic faith. Social Sundays are ongoing once or twice a month and are being sponsored by various Parish groups. There will be a free Family Movie night on February 1, 2025 showing the movie "5000 Blankets". Blankets will be collected as a service project.
- **New Business:** None

**Blessing:** Father Miller gave a blessing to close the meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, March 11, 2025 after the 6:30 PM Mass.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa A. Siciliano  
Secretary