

**Minutes of the 528th Meeting
Saint Stephen Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council
209 Sutton Lane Parish Office**

June 11, 2026

Members Present: Fr. John Thomas, Daniel Best, Joe Harris, Chris Warren, Susan Dunlap, Rita Roberson, Suzanne Padgett, Christopher Camp, Ross Leigh

Members Absent: Drew Augenstein, Katie Pagan, Kevin Payne

Team: Fr. Christopher Grief, Seminarian Chris French

I. Call to order

Daniel Best opened the meeting at 6:03 pm

II. Fr. Christopher Grief led the PPC in prayer.

III. After discussion the 2026-2027 Budget was approved.

IV. The minutes were approved as written for the May 14, 2026, meeting.

V. Liaison reports - Daniel Best

A. Parish Finance Committee - Fr. John Thomas (on behalf of Drew Augenstein)

Fr. John Thomas stated finances are in the black. The staff is watching expenses. They are getting a handle on the cost of being in a different office.

B. Liturgy - Ross Leigh

Fr. John Thomas reported the Corpus Christi Procession was fantastic and it filled the church. Seminarian Chris French was the emcee. After the noon Mass on Friday June 12, 2026, there will be a dedication prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, as a part of our country's 250th anniversary.

C. Social Concerns - Joe Harris

Joe Harris reported the Backpack Ministry was supplying families still in need of food after the end of the school year. There has been an increase in volunteers at the Pitino Shelter Soup Kitchen. Crews are needed only once every three months. Help is needed at St. Benedict Homeless Shelter. Tyler Jackson and Christopher Camp are two new volunteers. Sarah Hemingway and Rebecca Sapp head up the cooking teams on the third Friday of each month. St. Vincent de Paul has lost 3 volunteers and gained 3 new volunteers. They recently received a \$20,000. donation. Due to SNAP Benefits and Reduction and Effects on Immigrants and Refugees our Parish FoodBank is supplying 8 to 10 bags of food a week. The St Vincent de Paul Society has been asked to supply diapers to immigrant groups that have lost funding from the federal government.

D. Children and Family Ministry - Rita Roberson

Rita Roberson stated the Commemorative Cookbook has shipped. The Spirit Shop is online. Katie Bewick has agreed to be the games leader for Vacation Bible School.

E. Adult Formation - Chris Camp

No report. Fr. Christopher stated the Men's Group is doing well. OCIA will meet once a month during the summer.

F. Youth - Suzanne Padgett (on behalf of Katie Pagan)

Suzanne Padgett reported the Middle School Mission Week was the first week of June with 12 youth volunteering with different local organizations. On Friday they attended Holiday World. Volunteers are needed to pray for our youth while they are at Gasper. Swim days at Atlantis will be at the end of June and July. Fifteen youth were confirmed on May 24, 2026.

G. Young Adult - Kevin Payne

No report.

H. Buildings and Grounds - Chris Warren

Chris Warren announced the rectory roof has been repaired from hail damage. Once inspected it was determined that there were more broken tiles than anticipated. Since the adjuster assessed damage from the ground there will probably be additional insurance claims.

I. Parish Family Life - Susan Dunlap

Susan Dunlap reported invitations were mailed to parishioners for the September 6, 2026, 100th Anniversary Celebration. The RSVP deadline is June 28, 2026. A string ensemble has been contacted to provide music during the opening portion of the evening. Hallpass, the band led by John Calhoun, will provide a more energetic party atmosphere following dinner. The Spirit Shop has officially launched through our social media platforms and parish website.

J. Renewal and Expansion - Suzanne Padgett

Suzanne Padgett stated there will be a meeting with Diocesan employees, Bill Blincoe and Julie Garvin, on June 18, 2026, to discuss the renovation. After that meeting Fr. John Thomas will meet with Bishop Medley.

VI. New Business

None

VII. Unfinished Business

None

VIII. Action Items

None

IX. Pastor's Report

Fr. John Thomas announced Fr. Titus could not come due to Ebola. Fr. John has found ways for parishioners to donate money to Fr. Titus. He has also given him mass intentions. The food pantry is up and running but had a slow start. We are in the process of placing message boards on Locust and Cedar Streets. Fr. Christopher added it was good to be back. His father is recuperating from pancreatic cancer surgery and is now driving. Fr. Pascal moved to Paducah on June 9, 2026.

X. Birthdays, Anniversaries, Ordinations, etc.

None

XI. Closing Prayer

Fr. John Thomas led us in closing prayer.

XII. Adjourn

The next meeting is August 13, 2026. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Ebelhar