Finance Council Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2026

Members Present: Ron Kirscht, Tom Klecker, Fr. Matthew Kuhn, Craig Olson, Janet Schiltgen, Todd Wentworth, Jay Gish, Rodney Roers, Angela Dotty, & Fr. Dan Ruprecht.

Members Absent: Mark Maloney & Sandy Wussow.

Called to order with opening prayer at 4:45pm by Todd Wentworth.

Approval of Agenda: One correction – added 1.c. Parish Presentation under Financial Reports.

Approval of Minutes: One correction – Randy (Rodney) Roers listed in members present – removed as Rodney Roers was in Others Present.

Standing Business:

1) Financial Reports given by Todd Wentworth.
    a) Statement of Activities:
        i. Ron Kirscht had a question regarding the cemetery overcharge & buy back. A parishioner purchased a crypt and was charged for a mausoleum at the non-parishioner price. The buy back was for two crypts sold years ago. The buy back is 80% of the purchase price.
        ii. Ron Kirscht had a question about the amount to Benevolence – Individuals being over budget – we helped 7 people and gave $1500 to the Alexandria Traveler's Aid Fund. There has been an increase in people needing help – this is not just for our Parish. All churches in the area have been getting requests for help.
        iii. Tom Klecker questioned if it would be a good/bad idea to publicize how many people we have helped this year. Discussion on potential of some parishioners getting upset with the idea of us "giving away their money" and not using it for the parish.
    b) Statements of Financial Position.
        i. You will see a negative number, this is because we have switched from Cash Method to Accrual Method for accounting.
        ii. Outstanding past due tuition is about $13,000. One family who is past due said that they will be reaching out to Fr. Matt.

    c) Parish Presentation.
        i. Millions of Monica's members said that they had some questions they had answered during the presentation. Only negative feedback was that it got a little long.

Motion made by Fr. Matthew to approve Financial Reports, seconded by Ron Kirscht, all in favor, motion passed.

2) Fr. Alexander P. Ludwig – Benevolent Fund Requests – none.
3) Facilities.
    a) Church Windows: Project is complete. Kevin Becker was happy with the process. The delay from May to late Aug/Sept for competition was not ideal, but we were a small project for W. L. Hall and are grateful for the time and care they took. There was no mold or other erosion. One of the original seals for the windows was not installed correctly, with the proper installation of the new windows, we should not have to worry about leaking for many years.
    b) All projects are completed except for the Cemetery drive, which should start any day as the timeline was after Labor Day.
4) Stewardship.
    a) Commitment Weekend will be the last day of September.
    b) Ministry Fair will be this weekend (Sept 20).
5) Parish Raffle Tickets.
    a) We sold 4,740 tickets, which was more than last year (2025) and better than our 15-year average.
6) Related Entities.
    a) St. Mary's of Alexandria Catholic Foundation.
        i. Funds for scholarships, Deacon candidates, playground fence, and lockers.
    b) St. Mary's Catholic School Trust Fund.
        i. As of August 31, General Fund balance $1,559,334, Kirscht STEM Fund $37,435, Flaig Fund $14,782.
7) Pastoral Council – Rodney Roers.
    a) Meeting next week – more to follow.

Old/New/Future Business

1) HR (Retirement Benefits) – Things are calming down. Retired employees are still getting their full pension payments without any reduction. There will be an option for a lump sum payment to current employees who are 59 ½ years of age. This was not an option in the CBS plan, but allowed by the IRS. The Frozen Pension Plan has been amended to allow for this voluntary lump sum offering. We are also switching our 403(b) provider as of January 1. Both the pension and 403(b) will be monitored by the Retirement Benefit Oversight Committee, Todd is not on that particular committee, but there is an individual who has experience from California with Teachers Pension.

Future Considerations.

1) All Things New – Continually preparing for July 1, 2028, merger. ATN Committee will come up with a list of about eight names that will go to a vote in the parishes. The top three will be submitted to the Bishop for final pick.

a. Janet questioned if we could go back to the All-Things New Board about the possibility of keeping the name St. Mary's due to logistics concerns with changing the name of the legal entity. Our Tax ID will be the same, but the name attached to it will be different. Fr. Matt will take this back to the board.

Meeting Adjourned with the Glory Be at 5:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Radil