

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Finance Council Meeting September 3, 2025 Minutes

The Finance Council of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic parish met on Wednesday, 9/3/25, from 2:00 to 2:30 via ZOOM. The meeting was called to order by Alex and a quorum was established.

Council members present:

- Alex Gray (Chairman)
- Ed Quinnan
- Jack McAleer
- Jim Rice (Secretary)

Ex-officio members present:

- Fr. Jhonnatan Carmona
- Rebecca Bayless (Bookkeeper) (by telephone)

Alex began by reminding the meeting that it is mandatory under Canon Law that a parish establish a finance council to advise the pastor on the administration of the parish's temporal goods. Indeed, the Diocese of Monterey requires that a parish's financial council approve its budget before submission to the diocese at the beginning of each fiscal year.

He also reported that the preliminary budget planning document, attached to the minutes of the council's 7/23/25 meeting (the "FY2026 Budget") was not commented upon by the diocese.

Accordingly, upon motion duly made and seconded, the council members then present unanimously approved the FY 2026 Budget and directed that it be submitted to the diocese as the parish's budget for fiscal 2026 which began 9/1/25.

Fr. Jhonnatan and Rebecca then joined the meeting, at approximately 2:10 PM.

Alex briefed them on the action just taken with regard to the budget, then advised that it would be desirable to review financials for the just completed FY – which concluded on 8/31/25 – as soon as they are completed in order particularly to prepare for "stewardship" presentations to the parish in November

There followed a discussion in the course of which,

- Ed mentioned that it was "remarkable" that our little parish accomplishes as much as it does with a paucity of resources;

- Fr. Jhonnatan emphasized that the newly installed back altar and the framed altar pieces on each side of the back altar were paid for entirely with private donations and
- Alex pointed out that the entirety of the AMA rebate (budgeted at \$45,000 for FY2026) is used to supplement other sources of revenue (principally plate collections) and still produces a small net operating loss (budgeted at \$14,000 for FY 2026) whereas it would be better if the rebate, or at least a large portion thereof, could support capital projects.

The council then scheduled its next meeting for Wednesday, 10/8/25, by which time Rebecca expects to have at least drafts of the FY20256 financials, and the stewardship presentations for the weekend of 11/8-9/25.

Alex then asked Fr. Jhonnatan to offer a concluding prayer [“We give you thanks for the many gifts . . . ”], whereupon Alex thanked the attendees for their time and entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

/s/ James A. Rice
James A. Rice, Secretary

September 4, 2025
Date