

## OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

### Finance Council Meeting January 28, 2026 Minutes

The Finance Council of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic parish met on Wednesday, 1/28/26, from 3:30 to 4:30 in the parish hall meeting room. The meeting was called to order by Alex and a quorum was established.

Council members present:

- Alex Gray (Chairman)
- AB Introcaso (by telephone)
- Ed Quinnan (by telephone)
- Jack McAler
- Jim Rice (Secretary)

*Ex-officio* members present:

- Fr. Jhonnatan Carmona
- Rebecca Bayless (Bookkeeper)

Council member absent:

- None

Observers present:

Alondra Klemek  
John Finn

Fr. Jhonnatan offered an opening prayer ["Be with us as we enter a new year. . ."]. Alex then stated that the principal purposes of the meeting were:

- (a) to review a balance sheet as of December 31, 2025, and an income statement for the four-month period then ended as prepared by Rebecca [copies of which are attached to these minutes];
- (b) to discuss potential donor support for audio/visual upgrades to the sanctuary of the church and the parish hall; and
- (c) to discuss possible changes to the charter of the Finance Council the better to conform it to current practice.

Alex walked the meeting through various of the accounts set forth in the interim financial statements, emphasizing:

- (i) on the balance sheet:
  - that the cash balance of \$223,800 was in the “typical” range, an observation that was confirmed by Rebecca; and
  - that the balance in the Grounds & Maintenance fund (\$61,900) had increased significantly due, according to Rebecca, primarily to large donations late in the calendar 2025 year; and
  
- (ii) on the income statement:
  - that plate collections were running substantially ahead of budget due, in part, to one-off contributions from visitors utilizing the bar code listed on the back of the pews, except for Christmas Day collections due, according to Fr. Jhonnathan, to there being only one Mass that rainy day occasioned by limited availability of lectors and ushers;
  - that the Natale Dinner, budgeted to bring in \$5,000 net, was cancelled;
  - that facility rentals continued substantially to lag budget due mainly, in Father Jhonnathan’s opinion, to unavailability of the facility on Saturday evenings due to the 4:30 Mass;<sup>1</sup>
  - that revenue from Mass intentions at \$12,000 was running substantially over a budgeted \$7,000 for the whole fiscal year thanks mainly, per Father, to a single donation of \$10,000;
  - that building maintenance was high due to the acquisition of a new stove for the parish kitchen (\$6,400) and related installation costs (\$1,000), expenses which Alex pointed out might properly be reclassified year-end as maintenance of a type covered by that restricted fund;
  - that Liturgical Environment expenses were running hot due mainly to new banners and candles to complement the recently installed back altar; and
  - that based on revenues generated during the interim period (excepting donations for Mass intentions), the accrual for the diocesan assessment (at a rate of 22% of such revenue) was \$11,400.

---

<sup>1</sup> Father also mentioned the policy of the Diocese of Monterey restricting the rental of facilities to nonprofits.

Lastly, Alex suggested that reservations for the Lenten dinners, a major revenue-generator at a budgeted \$15,000 for the current FY, could be done online through Flocknote, and John Finn, in his capacity as parish webmaster, undertook to add an appropriate link to the parish website.

Next the meeting discussed the need for upgrading the sound systems in the church and the hall and the possibility of donor support for such a project. Alex detailed problems in particular with the sanctuary and the choir alcove, namely, that the amplifier in the sanctuary was prone to interference and that the microphones in the alcove just did not work well. He and Fr. Jhonnatan have an estimate, from Paul Cain Sound, for approximately \$13,000 to address these problems, subject to further evaluation. The meeting encouraged Alex to get a firm bid and Father to take this bid to a donor who has expressed interest in funding this project. Jim reminded him of the need for a memorandum of understanding covering the parameters of the donation which would include, ideally, a “gross-up” in an amount sufficient to cover the diocese’s assessment related thereto. [Post meeting note: walk through with Paul Cain Sound scheduled for Saturday, February 7.]

Next Alex called the attention of the meeting to a copy of the charter of the Financial Council that was included in attendees’ meeting materials. This document as per John Finn was adopted in 2014 and most recently amended in 2019. Alex asked attendees to review the charter, with particular reference to Article VI dealing with membership, and to email him their thoughts, and he undertook to propose at a subsequent meeting amendments based on those responses.

Finally, Fr. Jhonnatan mentioned the need for new altar linens, sized for the new back altar and to replace the threadbare table linens currently in use in the sanctuary. He found a vendor in Columbia and circulated a “cotizacion” (quote) which totaled to approximately \$3,700 for the quantity and designs specified. Alex encouraged Father to pull together all supporting documents, including those bearing on shipping costs, and to seek a second bid from a domestic supplier (to establish the reasonableness of the bid at hand). [Post meeting note: Gail Quinnan will attempt to get a second quote from suppliers she has previously utilized.]

Attendees agreed that their next meeting would take place on Thursday, April 30, 2026, with focus on the parish’s YTD financial performance.

Then, after Fr. Jhonnatan thanked the council for helping to “take care of the parish’s worldly goods,” Alex thanked attendees for their time and attention and entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

January 30, 2026  
Date