

St. Ann's PARISH
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Parish Council Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2025, 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by Joan Lynn and Cheryl Schondek

1. Opening Prayer:

Fr. Matt started the meeting with an opening prayer and the meeting was called to order. After welcoming everyone, the group approved the meeting minutes and moved onto the first agenda item.

2. Attendees:

- a. Fr. Matthew Laird
- b. Deacon Paul Spearin
- c. Deacon Joe McGinley
- d. Tom Wilbur, President
- e. Ed Mahoney
- f. Peter Schondek
- g. Cheryl Schondek (arrived at 7:40 after attending St. Ann's SVDP meeting)
- h. Karen Toste
- i. Joan Lynn

3. Terms and Membership:

Fr. Matt shared that there were 8 new nominations to date for the election of new members. June 13th will be the close of nominations with elections happening after. Parishioners were notified of the elections and nomination process via the website. The new people will be elected for a term of 3 years. The question was raised as to whether or not we would have annual elections. The discussion focused on whether or not that would be necessary if no vacancy occurred. Ideally, one third of the committee would be elected, one third appointed and one third ex-officio.

4. Old Business:

- ❖ Update on Disciple Maker Index Survey: results have been pushed back - we will not get them until July. An analysis of our data will be done by Cheryl Schondek, Karen Toste, and Fr. Matt. Delay is due to all of the paper entries that were submitted by all three churches that have to be individually entered and results will not be shared until all 3 parishes have been completed.
- ❖ Roof and Parish Center Update: Fr. Matt will submit the request for the new roof to the Diocese very soon. Anonymous donor to cover the cost. Painting and refreshing of the classrooms has started in the Parish Center.

- ❖ Rededication of the Abortion Victims Monument: June 18th, 7 p.m. Rosary followed by a special blessing.
- ❖ Trivia Night: This event has been rescheduled for November 8th. Stacey O'Connell and Lorraine Levy will provide more information as we get closer.
- ❖ Return of Coffee and Donuts: We will be starting up again with a few new aspects. Each week will be sponsored by one of the St. Ann's organizations. It will take place outside of church on the side lawn.

June 22 : Sociable Seniors

July 13: TBD (Since our meeting, Women Faith Study signed up)

July 27: K of C

August 10: TBD (since our meeting, Prayer Shawl signed up)

August 22: SVDP

If inclement weather, we will hold it in the Parish Center

5. Faith Formation Update:

The end of the year went smoothly. Two 1st Communions, Two Confirmations, registration for next year. Registration fees are due by June 16th allowing us to purchase books/materials for next year.

6. Deacon's Report:

Right to Life is June 19th at 7 pm; Deacon's convocation will be here at St. Ann's on Saturday, June 21st. Deacons and their wives will meet in the hall, then the Bishop will say Mass, followed by a catered luncheon back in the parish center. Deacon Joe is leading the convocation.

7. New Business:

- ❖ Parish Picnic: At the next KofC meeting, there will be more discussion about the picnic.
- ❖ Parish Council Workshop: Holy Trinity Church in Fall River, Tuesday June 17th. 5:30 pm dinner followed by 6-8:30 workshop. The focus will be how the council can better support the parish priest.
- ❖ Town Hall Meeting: Fr. Matt brought up the idea of having one of our Parish Council meetings as a Town Meeting style scenario. We would invite parishioners to join us and have the opportunity to ask questions - either of the work of the parish council or of the various groups here at St. Ann's. We also discussed having questions written ahead of time so that we could prepare. More discussion to come.

8. Questions/Concerns:

- ❖ Karen Toste questioned if it was possible to have an email for the parish council and/or a form on the parish web site for parishioners to ask questions. Many parishioners may or may not know the council and/or have a comfort level approaching them about a matter or suggestion. The creation of a 'centralized' mailbox may spark more input from the parish.
- ❖ She also questioned whether it would be possible to do a 'spotlight' on a parishioner, or parish organization? Either place this information in the bulletin or on the web site. For example, an interview with Fr. Matt after his recent finish at the Falmouth road race? How does your faith contribute to your music and running?

- ❖ Roof Discussion: Members questioned what is the timing of the project? Will it interfere with morning Mass? Invite the workers to worship and then begin their work.
- ❖ Town Hall Meeting: After an extensive review of the fall calendar, the group agreed to have the next meeting Town Hall style in the Parish Center on September 24, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.
Action: Continue to check other calendars, i.e.: local school open house, etc. to determine if this date will conflict with other events. The intent is to spark more input from the parishioners who will be able to ask questions in advance or at the meeting.

9. Closing Payer:

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. after a closing prayer from Fr. Matt Laird