



# SAINT LAWRENCE PARISH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

## St. Lawrence Church Parish Council Meeting

**March 27, 2025**

**Members present:** Fr. Joe DeCosta, Donna Lebert, Regan Cutillo, Lourdes Hosking, Jack Schuster, Marina Rossi, Karen Shea, Jim Clemente, Dawn Walzac and Robert DeMarini.

Others in attendance: Deacon John, Joe Lenart, Al Karg.

The meeting opened at 7:03 pm with a welcome from Donna Lebert and a prayer from Fr. Joe. The January minutes were formally approved, first motion by Donna L. and seconded by Karen S. Deacon John has been researching Parish Council vs. Parish Pastoral Council By-Laws. He stated that the Parish Pastoral Council Bylaws, that Donna previously received, do not apply to our current Parish Council. Donna mentioned that she signed up the Parish Council to lead the stations on April 11th.

### **Ministry Committee Reports:**

- **Liturgy:** Minutes were provided, from Karole K., for the Liturgy committee meeting on 2/14. Discussion of parish involvement: She provided a draft of a letter to publish and a list of ministry roles with definitions and contact names. There is a need for transparency regarding 2nd collections' purpose. Fr. Joe stated it will now be announced prior to the collection. Discussion of organ repairs and if we would need a future fund collection (water & mice damage) but Father Joe mentioned that Tom and Mike have repaired some of the issues (THANK YOU). Discussion about the musical director position. Fr. Joe stated that Mike F. is interested and he will follow up with him. Karole created a Holy week schedule and provided it to Bob V, to add to the sign up link and so it can be posted on the April calendar. Fr. Joe visited the 4th grader CCD classes to discuss the need for altar serving. Fr. Joe is the only one currently available to train altar servers and Deacon John stated that we need someone else to lead that training.
- **Finance:** Jim Clemente provided a brief update now that he has joined the Finance Committee. Fr. Joe stated we are in the black. Donna did not previously provide the updated Project form to Tony S. in order for him to submit the paperwork to Finance for the door project. She has since so Tony can now do so. Donna will send out the Project form to Council so that everyone will have it.
- **CCD:** Joe Lenart stated the following: He met with Chase and Chloe, the CO DRE's at St. Peter to review their materials (books, age appropriate bibles) that Joe would like to use. 3/26 spoke with the director of formation, at the congregational church, about having a combined VBS with St. Lawrence, St. Peter, and The Congregational church and which is now tentatively set for 6/16 for 3 days.
- **TIA:** Kirk provided a remote update - Teens will lead the Stations on Friday 3/28. The Easter baskets collection is due on Sunday 3/30 they will then prepare baskets for St.

Vincent De Paul. Fr. Joe was asked if they would have summer camp, he wasn't sure but mentioned that Norwich is the only diocese in CT that is not allowed to take TIA trips.

- **Healing Ministry:** no update.
- **Hospitality:** Al scheduled Coffee/and for the 3rd Sunday of each month - except Easter weekend. Donna asked Al if he could announce that the greeting ministry sign now has an online link on the church website.
- **Stewardship:** Not aware of any meetings.
- **Plant & Facilities:** New hall stove has been ordered - no ETA for delivery. Tree assessment currently on hold.
- **Website/Communications:** Discussion of new altar ministry sign up process. It was mentioned that the KOC discussed having a television screen in Narthex for announcements/church events. The wifi in church wasn't working due to an issue with the UPS/battery - donations of a battery and UPS (Bob Vissers and Bob Judge) fixed the issue (THANK YOU).

### **Suggestion Box:**

- Concern for there being floral arrangements in the chapel during Lent. Fr. Joe will ask to have them removed.

### **Old Business:**

- Child advocate for the Safe Environment position is still open- someone is interested.
- Musical director position: Fr. Joe will follow up with Mike Fazio as he has stated interest. Fr. Joe said he did not complete the follow up on the previously submitted resume.
- Updated parish directory: Tony S offered to help with this future project, but will need guidance and direction and help.
- Open volunteer positions. Help is still needed.
- Etiquette about not leaving mass before the Priest - Fr Joe to address.

### **New Business:**

- Strawberry Festival June 14th
- Reminder how important it is to announce the deaths of parishioners. In addition to having the notice placed in the bulletin.
- Donna stated that the Chair and Vice chair positions are needed for Parish council

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm with a prayer by Fr Joe. The next Parish Council meeting will be on **May 29, 2024, at 7 pm** in the Church hall.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Regan Cutillo, secretary