



SAINT LAWRENCE PARISH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

St. Lawrence Church Parish Council Meeting

May 28, 2026

Members present: Donna Lebert, Jack Schuster, Bob DeMarini, Karen Shea, Jim Clemente, Lourdes Hosking

Others in attendance: Father Joe DeCosta, Al Karg, Bill Zeidler, Karole Kreutter

The meeting opened at 7:03 pm with a welcome from Donna Lebert and a prayer from Father Joe. The March 26, 2026 minutes were formally approved by all in attendance.

Ministry Committee Reports:

Liturgy:

Karole Kreutter stated that the Liturgy Committee met in March, April, May and will hopefully continue on a monthly basis. Discussions included the upcoming game/pizza night scheduled in June, it is hopeful that a day retreat will be scheduled for the fall, Deacon John is looking to set up a meeting of those involved in our ministries and to review the guidelines, possible children's choir, not having so many new hymns played each Mass - maybe one only so parishioners aren't uncomfortable not knowing them, Joe L needs to schedule times for Father Joe to meet with each CCD class and to have classes involved in a Sunday liturgy.

It was mentioned that the Diocese Safe Environments office is being audited and that necessary individuals will be required to renew their paperwork every 5 years.

The shared Parish Triduum was discussed and thought to have gone well at St. Peter. There was some confusion on why Father Marty wasn't as involved in each Mass and couldn't have Mass separately. Father Joe stated that there are Diocese guidelines on the Triduum Masses and roles between a Pastor and a Parochial Vicar. Father was asked if the detailed guidelines can be provided. He stated he would have a link to the document added to our church website.

It was questioned if Bob Vissers was scheduling Altar servers as it was noted that none are usually printed on the monthly schedule.

Finance:

Jim Clemented stated that the new Finance committee met in April. A few things discussed were fundraisers and budget preparation for 2026/2027.

Religious Education (CCD):

Joe Lenart did not attend but provided the following information.

- Vacation Bible camp will be 6/29-7/2. Joe will be asking for volunteers and will be ordering the Bible camp kit.
- CCD registrations need to be completed for the fall.
- Jess Mularski will be teaching the upcoming 9th grade CCD class and Joe will stay with the 10th graders until confirmation on October 18th.
- A retreat is being scheduled for this fall combined with St. Peters for the 9 - 10 graders.
- As of now, it is anticipated that we will not have classes for Kindergarten, first or fourth grade starting in the fall.
- A new laptop has been donated for the DRE position. This has been extremely beneficial for all CCD and Safe Environment paperwork.
- If not previously stated, Joe L is now officially running our Safe Environment needs. Our training logs have been submitted. Everyone's paperwork is complete for the music program, Bible camp registration desk and kitchen worker.

TIA: Information submitted by Margaret Whiteman.

The TIA was unable to arrange for the spare rummage sale items, from the April sale, to be brought to Savers to provide income for their upcoming trip. Car Wash will be on 6/6 and bake sale on 6/7 at St. Lawrence. The KofC is donating funds made from the June pancake breakfast to the TIA. The TIA will be asked to volunteer at that breakfast. A parent meeting is scheduled on 6/7 to review the CHWC trip as required by diocesan policies. The trip will be 7/19 - 7/24 at Mary Help of Christians Academy, North Haledon, NJ. 18 campers are enrolled - 15 from St. Lawrence and 3 from St. Peter's. Kirk and Margaret are coordinating with the dioceses and the OSE contacts to complete the necessary trip documentation.

Healing Ministry: Information submitted by Alice Lucas

Blood pressure checks continue and great work is being done in Mary's Garden. It is beginning to look like an appropriate garden for our Blessed Mother.

Hospitality:

The rummage sale was on April 18th and made approximately \$3300. The Strawberry festival is scheduled for 6/20. The raffle basket donation board was set up and Volunteer and bake sale sign up sheets have been placed in the Narthex. The plan is to schedule "Coffee And" for the 3rd weekend of each month.

Plant and Facilities:

The driveway sealing quote has been signed by Father Joe and has been submitted to the Diocese for approval. Bob DeMarini has been researching new microphones for our Priests to use during Mass. They would be a headset style vs the current lavalier style. Bob provided a formal review and mentioned that the current system is functional but hopefully there is room for improvement. It was stated that given a steady speaking level voice the headset microphone will reproduce the sound at a fixed level but it cannot compensate for a change in the source level. The Council has approved for Bob to get a quote on his recommended headset and submit it to Father Joe and Finance for approval to purchase. Donna requested that Father Joe arrange for Forbearance to walk the church property and to provide a quote for any concerning work to be done. There is a concern of a few trees that have dead limbs.

Communications:

Joe L, as part of the KofC, is proposing an option to set up a monitor in the Narthex to show upcoming events at St. Lawrence. His hope is to make it interactive so parishioners can sign up for activities while at the church.

Suggestions:

- It is important to publish if any parishioners have passed and when their services will be. (This was discussed and it was determined that the last two services were published through email but we were aware that two people did not receive them. It was suggested to check spam to ensure they are not going there. One in attendance checked during the meeting and they were not in their spam.)

New Business:

NA

Old Business:

- Open volunteer positions are still an issue.
- Parish directory. Donna L continues to clean up our current registry. It is a difficult task.
- Father Joe was contacted by a vendor that provides parish pictorial directories.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm with a prayer by Fr. Joe. A prayer was also said in memory of Peter Lenart who's 86th birthday would have been today. The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on July 23th, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Lebert