



SAINT LAWRENCE PARISH

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

St. Lawrence Church Parish Council Meeting

August 28, 2025

August Members present: Father Joe, Deacon John, Donna Lebert, Lou Hosking, Jack Schuster, Jim Clemente, Bob DeMarini, Lou Hosking, Dawn Walzak, Karen Shea and Marina Rossi.

Others in attendance: Al Karg, William Zeidler

June Members present: Donna Lebert, Lou Hosking, Jack Schuster, Jim Clement, Karole Kreutter, Margaret Whiteman and Al Karg.

The meeting opened at 7:10 pm with a welcome from Donna Lebert and a prayer from Father Joe. Donna was advised that since Father Joe did not attend the June meeting that it was not an approved meeting, per the Bishops office. Any discussions from June, if pertinent, will be reviewed in today's meeting. The previous June minutes should not be posted and are void. The March 27, 2025 minutes were formally approved, motion by Bob DeMarini and seconded by Lou Hosking.

Ministry Committee Reports:

Liturgy:

- (June) Karole K. reported that she prepared a draft survey to send out to parish members looking for suggestions as to what we can do to make our parish more appealing and engaging. She sent the draft survey to Fr. Joe and is awaiting his response. (August) Father Joe thought he responded to Karole and has approved for her to proceed.
- (June) Karole K. indicated that Bishop Reidy intends to reestablish the distribution of the Precious Blood cup during Holy Communion. (August) Fr. Joe stated that this is currently being reviewed at the Deanery level only at this time. It was suggested that this subject be broached in our Parish survey in case the Bishop requests this information from our Parish.
- The Bishop's activities planned with the youth were discussed on how great it is. It was suggested that Fr. Joe does some activities with our youth
- (June) The Organist position has been filled by Mr. Mike Fazio. (Aug) Father Joe stated that Mike's intention is to restart the choir in the fall. Mike installed and changed out some organ pipes in memory of Dick Taylor with a few more changes planned. It was questioned on how often Mike plays at as it was assumed he was going to play at every Mass. Fr. Joe clarified that Mike travels with his current day job and is not always available which is why Tom is still playing. Fr. Joe was aware of his partial schedule and Mike told Fr. Joe that he is hoping to change his travel schedule soon so he will be available more often.
- (June) There has been no Liturgy meeting since 2/14. (August) Donna Lebert suggested a meeting be scheduled soon and Fr. Joe said it should then be in October since Advent is upcoming. Deacon John requested that, in addition to Karole, Deacon John and Fr. Joe that a cantor (Joe Lenart stated he would try to make the meeting) and Mike Fazio join as a minimum and it would be better to have more involved.

Finance:

- (June) Margaret W. reported that the Finance Committee approved the purchase and replacement of the church doors.
- (August) No one from Finance was present. Fr. Joe stated that the F24-F25 (ended June 30th) finished \$400 ish in the black. The diocese will be sent our statements to review.

CCD:

- (June) This year's vacation Bible Camp was held on June 30 through July 3, from 9-12 Noon. (Aug) There were 18 children and did not need to combine with the Congregational church but they did share materials. Joe hopes to share materials also in the future. It was a successful camp.
- CCD is scheduled to start on the 22nd of September for classes 4 - 10, if this date works for the teachers. As of today there was only one child signed up in the K-3 slots. Volunteers are available to teach 3rd grade if there are children for the sacrament year class.
- Confirmation is scheduled for November 16th, 2 pm, at St. Lawrence. As of now there are 21 Children.

TIA: (June)

- Youth Work Camp - Margaret and Kirk Whiteman met with Bishop Reidy to discuss the attendance of our TIA group to participate in the Youth Work Camp this summer since last year they were not able to get approval from the Diocese to attend due to insurance issues. The Bishop supported the TIA plans, and the diocesan Risk Management Committee approved the trip. The TIA group will be going to New Jersey on their Summer Work Camp trip from July 20-25. They were able to use the credit from last year's missed trip to cover most of the CHWC fees for campers and chaperones. They are not asking for contributions from the parishes because the parishes reimbursed the families last year for the cancelled trip. Family contributions will be used for the remaining CHWC fees, transportation costs and other expenses.
- The need for a Safety Environment Coordinator is causing delays with volunteers and students getting their paperwork processed in a timely manner.
- The TIA held a car wash on June 7. Proceeds from the car wash were used to help with Summer Work Camp trip expenses.

Healing Ministry:

- (June) Alice Lucas is looking to recruit parishioners to be part of the Healing Ministry. She has asked the office for any new parishioner registrations, but has not received any. It was suggested that someone should be reviewing any new forms for potential volunteers.
- (August) Meetings should resume the first week of September. Blood pressure checks will start again in September. Al Karg mentioned that the Healing ministry is in charge of Mary's Garden. There was a suggestion to Joe Lenart to clarify what he is working on to Alice.
- Donna mentioned that Jim Fulmer stated there is an overgrowth of poison ivy, bittersweet, etc. down in the outside stations of the cross area. Help is needed to keep that area cleared.

Hospitality:

- (June) There was a Rummage Sale in May. The profit was approx \$1,500. The Strawberry Festival was held on Saturday, June 14th. There was a good turnout even though the weather did not cooperate. Bishop Reidy made a surprise visit and he stayed and chatted with many of the people in attendance. The profit was approx \$2,460.
- Al K. mentioned that Coffee And... is scheduled for every third weekend of the month.
- (August) Sue Browne has offered to run another rummage sale on October 11th. That time was chosen since there is no CCD and she could arrange for Vets to pick up remnants on the following Tuesday.

Plant and Facilities:

- (June) Jack S. reported that the rectory water heater had a leak, he would be taking care of it. (August) The water heater was repaired.
- (June) Replacement Church doors were ordered but no information yet on arrival. (Aug) Donna Lebert will contact Karen Hood and Tony Sansone for an update.
- (June) Tree assessment and driveway sealing quotes need to be submitted to the Finance Committee. (August) The tree project is on hold. (August) There needs to be a determination if we can just seal the driveway or if it needs to be completely repaved. The consensus was that it was originally paved in 1988 and only sealed since then. Tony S has received a few quotes for repaving.
- (June) It was discussed that the concrete area outside the Church main entry door needs to be fixed. (August) Tony S arranged for the Church front door concrete to be repaired for \$2,200.

Communications:

- (June) There was a discussion regarding the minimal online signups for the Altar and Greeting Ministries. It seems that the same parishioners are helping out every week due to the lack of sign-ups or there is no one to assist. (August) This has now been changed back to a manual process. We thank Jennifer Torello for the Lector Schedules and Bob Vissers for the Eucharistic Minister and Altar server schedules. There is a need for more volunteers, especially Altar servers.

Stewardship Committee:

- The Stewardship Committee is still not meeting. The office sends out checks to the selected organizations on a quarterly basis of \$3000 per quarter, if we are in the black. (June) It was suggested that where the money is sent should be noted in the bulletin so parishioners are aware of what organizations we are supporting. (August) The office stated that they do put this information in the bulletin. Someone mentioned that Sue Browne assists with picking who to donate to.

New Business (Aug):

- Joe Lenart is in training for the Safe Environment Coordinator position.
- KofC Car cruise scheduled on 9/7 from 2-6 pm.
- Joe Lenart stated that since the lighting was changed in the hall it is all on one circuit and it is inconvenient and was wondering if it can be changed back. It was suggested he contact the office.
- The wireless hasn't been working in the church. The WAP (receiver/repeater) seems to have walked away. Bob V is assisting with its replacement but there is an issue with documentation. Once fixed Joe L mentioned that they are hoping to set up the big TV in the Narthex to post upcoming events.
- Joe L said a thought is to get a touch screen so people can sign up for functions. Another was to put up a projector in the church to show music and readings on the wall.
- It is imperative that if any work will be done on church grounds that the proper procedure be followed through the office and Finance. If not approved, please don't expect reimbursement.

Old Business:

- Parish directory is still something to work on in the future
- Notifications of parishioners passing reminders to Father Joe.
- Open volunteer positions - see bulletin

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm with a prayer by Fr. Joe. The next Parish Council Meeting will be on **October 23, 2025, at 7 pm** in the Church Hall.

Respectfully submitted by,

Donna Lebert Parish Council Chair