

ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH

Pastoral Council Minutes

December 10, 2025

Present: DC John Pedrotti, Tracy Capone, Todd Chase, Jennifer Kline, John Herrmann, Peggy Ford, Darlene St. John, Sharon App, Kathy Fisselbrand, Maureen Murphy, Angie Banes, Liz Case & Kristin Jankowski

OPENING PRAYER--- Kathy led us in a Hail Mary & Our Father prayer

MINUTES FROM OUR OCTOBER MEETING—The minutes of the October meeting were approved as presented.

SUGGESTION BOX.1) There was a suggestion that our meeting minutes be posted on our St Augustine's website. All felt this is a good idea, but Liz will check with Fr Ben first to see if there are any legalities preventing us from doing so. John H will inform the person who suggested this of our plan.

MINISTRY REPORTS---

Stewardship-Sharon...We met our Hope Appeal Goal.

Parish Life & Worship--- The next liturgy meeting will be held Jan 14 at 7:00

Sharon provided a detailed handout from Ryan regarding the possible purchase of a new piano. It was suggested that Ryan prepare options that need to be presented to the Bishop before approving & sending the request to the finance committee. Options should address 1) remanufacturing cost along with any warrantee or guarantee 2) 2 choices & costs of new pianos, being specific & 3) what happens if nothing is done. Sharon will advise Ryan of same.

Spiritual Development-Darlene...

There will be an Advent Parish Retreat on 12/13/25 presented by Meg Castellini.

It was noted that the Bishop is considering the request to hold communion services and/or prayer services.

Parish Outreach-Peggy...A handout was distributed noting all updates for various programs SAM is currently involved with (Giving tree, Samaritan Sandwiches, Ramen Noodle Collection, Christmas food collection).

Also, the Baldwinsville Interfaith Green Team continues to work on their pollination project, plans for an April clean up in 5 areas, and is working on creating a Facebook page.

Syracuse University's Community Engagement monthly round-table discussions, which are sponsored by the Lender Foundation, welcome people from the community. Their issues correlate with our Advocates for social Justice ministries which include lead in water & housing displacement due to the Rt 81 project.

The Advocates for Social Justice are hosting a presentation by Kate Holmes from Catholic Charities for our 3 parishes which will take place on Monday 12/15 at 7:00. The presentation is titled "Social Justice at Work" ... a reflection on Catholic Charities of Onondaga County's Refugee Resettlement Program.

An overview of the Luke 10 Social Justice Program was presented by Sandy Baker. She discussed what has taken place so far with the participants being assigned projects involving issues the vulnerable population face. They also hold listening sessions with parishioners to further gather information. She provided a handout of "The Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching". The ultimate goal is to have all 3 Baldwinsville parishes work together for social justice.

YOUTH REPORT—Jen advised she is working with the youth directors from St Elizabeth Ann Seaton & St Mary's to develop activities for grades 5 and under.

It was also noted that the older youth are planning a trip to Massachusetts.

DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL REPORT---Lyn. No report

SAFETY AND SECURITY CONCERNS—

KEY ISSUES—We are moving forward with the rekeying as it was approved by the finance committee.

Maureen is following up with the diocese on further safety concerns.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS—Maureen advised that our profit was \$13,757 which is \$796 less than last year. 300 fewer \$20 tickets were sold.

Maureen emphasized we need to make changes for this function. We need to provide a survey for the parishioners to see what is important to them for the event...daytime vs nighttime, cold meal vs hot meal, alcohol vs no alcohol ... were a few issues among others to survey.

INFORMATION TABLE—Peggy provided a sign up sheet for working the Information Table

FORMULATE SCHEDULE FOR 2025-2026 PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETINGS— we will meet on the 2nd Wednesdays of the month. However, for various reasons it was decided to not meet in January.

OTHER ISSUES—

Kristin will be relaunching a new website after the first of the year as our current website is antiquated. Then she will be able to add the NYS Bishop's letter released on November 13th and Bishop Lucia's Nov 26th letter regarding the 139th anniversary of the Syracuse Diocese and plans to emphasize the Holy Eucharist in our 140th year.

The DMI results were discussed. The snapshot provided contains so much data that a summarization is needed. The Bishop, Fr Ben, Tracy, DC John , Sharon & any PC member interested will meet to decide what to present to the parish as a summary.

PASTORS COMMENTS—Dc John discussed that our ideas & planning of various functions need change. We need to adjust to the current times and rethink a lot of what we have been doing over & over for years to decide what & where changes are needed.

Please be advised that if we experience inclement weather, the Pastoral Council meetings may be held via zoom.

Next Meeting--February 11, 2026 at 6:30 (no dinner)

Closing Prayer—was provided by Peggy

Respectfully Submitted

Peggy Ford