

Parish Council Meeting
September 8, 2025
Remote Zoom Meeting (recorded)

Roll Call

Parish Council Members Present: Christine Dardaris, Donna Dimitri, Sergio Georgi, Zachary Smith, Reem Tarazi, Anila Vero

Parish Council Members Absent: Davit Jishkariani

Clergy: Fr. Kai

Auxiliary Members Present: Steve Coraluzzi, Linda Croke

Meeting opened with a prayer at 7:37pm.

Secretary's Report (reported by Reem Tarazi)

Reem presented minutes from the August 2025 meeting. No discussion. Christine moved to accept minutes as presented and seconded by Anila. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report (presented by Zachary Smith)

At end July 2025:

- Checking account at ~\$38,900
- Investment account stable at ~\$310,00
- Pledges: One new pledge for ~\$58,400 in pledges (including carryover); received ~\$30,000 thus far
- Icon Auction: Received ~\$17,000 of \$18,765 pledged
- Notable Income
 - Candles and collections slightly lower than July 2024
 - Higher on pledges when compared to July 2024
 - Several memorials
 - Baptism
- Notable expenses
 - Mini split in altar – check cashed
- In red this month; in black YTD
- Bank and CC statements available for review

Steve asked re: annual insurance fee; Zach confirmed due in October and will inquire about current premium given no new claims

Anila moved to accept the July report, seconded by Reem. No further discussion. Zach abstained. Motion passed.

At end August 2025:

- Checking account down to ~\$15,200 because of transfer of \$20,000 to investment account
- Investment account up to ~\$338,200 following gain and transfer
- Pledges: no change in pledges; received ~\$33,200 to date
- Icon Auction: no change in monies received
- Notable Income
 - Candles and collections similar to August 2024
 - Higher on pledges when compared to August 2024
 - Received \$5000 donation from Bill Rubis' estate directed to window project; Donna confirmed receipt with family
- Notable expenses

- Travel to Detroit for Albanian Archdiocesan Assembly (received donations to cover some of these costs)
- In red this month; in black YTD
- Bank and CC statements available for review

Reem moved to accept the August report, seconded by Christine. No further discussion. Zach abstained. Motion passed.

Clergy report (presented by Fr. Kai)

1. Temple University students attending our church asked if they could participate in Vespers services on Tuesday evenings; Fr. Kai requested permission from Fr. Mark and bishop, who agreed
 - Council supports this plan
2. Wedding of Michele Dardaris was special given long family lineage at St. John's
 - Donna highlighted the very high attendance and beautiful ceremony!
3. Looking forward to the Albanian Archdiocesan Assembly and witnessing progress of the archdiocese

Chairperson Report (reported by Donna Dimitri)

1. Big Joe, roofer, came to the church and checked for the leak above the Bishop's chair on the Solea. The workers caulked some of the seams/welds in the upper gutters that may have been causing the leak.
2. Gentian Marku, a painter referred by Ilir Gremi, met with Anila and Sergio.
 - a. Sergio and Anila provided update re: painting project
 - b. Discussed options for speakers and wires to improve sound and aesthetics
 - c. Plan to complete before November
3. Father Kai, Sergio Georgi, Kevin Begaj, Marion Merkle, Paula Bendo, Linda Croke, Linda Notskas, Colleen Xhoxhi and I will travel to Farmington Hills MI to attend the Archdiocesan Assembly Sept 25-27 2025.
4. Ilirjan Papa, Sunday School director, is all set for the first day of Sunday school on September 14th, which is also the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Vice-Chairperson Report (reported by Sergio Georgi)

Nothing new to report

Old Business

1. Church cleanup scheduled for 10/11/25, 2-5pm
2. Semi-annual parish meeting scheduled for 10/19/25
3. Reem asked re: potential new parish council members named at last meeting; Fr. Kai will speak to them to determine interest

New Business

1. Anila spoke with Albanian who owns cleaning company and suggested hiring her for carpet cleaning
 - Donna indicated we cleaned carpets few years ago, but they are worn; open to getting quote for carpet cleaning, which Anila will do
 - Anila shared idea on promoting businesses

Next Parish Council monthly meeting scheduled for Monday, October 6 at 8:00pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37pm with a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Reem Tarazi