

SSDCA Board Meeting 3/18/25

Attended: Ed Giblin, Rick Rall, Bernadette Rall, John Payne, Vince Franco

Approval of Minutes: Approved from 2/19/25

Financial Update: John Payne

2 more people paid dues; \$45 refund from Notre Dame Retreat House; Tomandl reimbursement for picnic reservation; no changes to the St. Lawrence Fund

Operating fund balance: \$5,884

St. Lawrence fund balance: \$18,334

Leadership discussion:

Rick will take on President duties and would like the board to keep looking for Vice President; have we checked the deacon questionnaire to see if anyone indicated an interest in participating in SSDCA? Rick can write letter to say he is willing to be President, but really needs someone to step up and be Vice President

Discussion St. Lawrence Fund:

The committee has been Ed, Lon and Paul Sartori; very tightly written – medical issues, disasters, etc. Could we tithe 10% to other diocesan disasters? Ed reported it wasn't written that way, but can consider when we redo the bylaws; Ed will send out request for St Lawrence Fund recommendations, as there haven't been any recent requests

Phoebe's Friends:

Bernadette reported the Widow's Luncheon will be on Tuesday, May 20th at 11 am at St. John's of Rochester at 11:00 am; will be asking Fr. Ed Palumbos if he will preside over the mass again this year; the next Day of Reflection – October 25th – more info to follow; Bernadette will remind Phoebe's Friends that they can be on Ed's family distribution list for deacon news

SSDCA Retreat: September 5-7 – Notre Dame Retreat Center – Dennis received permission, from the Bishop, for approval of speaker – Fr. Sadhanala, St. John's in Spencerport; topic – how to communicate with parishes regarding angst and stress around polarization of politics; Rick and Bernadette will handle name tags; does Dennis coordinate hor doerves? Ed will be taking pictures again of deacon couples and will invite the Deacon formation class, as he does each year - a few may come just for the day

Picnic: July 27, 2025 at Cayuga State Park; deposit has been paid; more info to follow

Reports: Rick will coordinate bringing breakfast back on the day of Deacon Ordination; Ed said the last ordination had about 30 vested deacons and handful that did not vest; we need to get more deacons to attend ordination; Ed reported 2 permanent deacons and one transitional deacon to be ordained May 31st; Next formation cohort – Fall 2027, thus after 2027, next anticipated ordinations would be 2030. Also, there has been no demonstrated interest from the "Growth in Ministry" interviews of deacons who wish to be an SSDCA officer; that does not include wives, although they've been invited repeatedly via Lon Smith's numerous request for members of the community to step forward for SSDCA leadership roles.

Ed reported no Convocation date yet – probably sometime in June; At least 4 men requesting senior status; 130 total deacons – around 60 in senior status; 20 deacons outside Diocese, but still incardinated; average age of deacons – 68; it is becoming tougher to move deacons around

Rochester Catholics NW area – 6 pastors working together.

The group discussed a few possible nominees for the Stan Zawacki award

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 29th – 6 pm – possibly Immaculate Conception

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Rall