

2025 Annual Breakfast Community Report

2025 was a year of many changes for the St. Joe's breakfast community. As our numbers have continued to increase, we needed more cold storage and dry storage space for food and supplies. A commercial single door refrigerator was donated for the kitchen. While our former Breakfast Minister, Fr. Lachlan Hassman, was away for study and break in England during the summer, 28 volunteers from inside and outside St. Joe's orchestrated a complete reset of the dining room and kitchen including a deep cleaning, repainting and reorganizing. It truly was a team effort and we are grateful to each of you who donated your time and efforts to make it happen.

The crowning accomplishment of the parish hall reset is a mural of the last supper painted by one of our breakfast community members, Jerry, and volunteer Charlotte McGee. The mural includes our dining room at breakfast and a cameo by Lachlan. If you have not seen it, I encourage you to check it out. We were also able to purchase a commercial griddle to handle the increased demand for pancakes when we discontinued bacon due to the cost.

Safety has been a big issue this past year and at the recommendation of the Community Breakfast Advisory Board, the Vestry approved funds to hire two new associate breakfast ministers to provide coverage so each day would have two breakfast ministers present.

A Volunteer training/retreat was conducted on Sunday, November 9 2025, at 1pm and was attended by some 28 volunteers. The training covered 3 areas:

Safety – food safety, first aid, mental health crisis response

Processes – breakfast workflows

De-escalation techniques

The session was recorded and shared with those who could not attend.

We learned in the Fall that Lachlan had been assigned to a small parish in Virginia and would be leaving in mid-November. A search committee was formed and Brent was asked to be interim Director of Breakfast Ministry until a hire was made. That has been accomplished and, as you heard from Vicar Lauren, we will have a new Director of Breakfast Ministry, Gregor Levy, who will onboard beginning January 19 and will take over on February 2nd.

As I mentioned in the beginning, with our numbers increasing our storage demands have also increased. Through several generous donations, we have purchased a two-door commercial refrigerator that resides in the pantry.

The vestments in the back storage room will be moved to a new armoire located in the breakfast office. Shelving will be installed in the former vestment space along the right-hand wall for additional dry storage.

We are hoping to have a new volunteer schedule system in place by the first part of February.

Several minor projects are in the works as well. New under-sink organizers will be installed and we have transitioned from laundering table cloths to oil cloth table coverings that can be wiped down.

Through the efforts of Charlotte McGee and Jean Colletti the kitchen cabinets and drawers have been labeled and the chest freezer has been inventoried.

As you will see in the breakfast by the number's handout, the breakfast community and the hunger continue to grow. We will be conducting our annual breakfast fundraiser during Lent to meet this increased need in our community. Please support this effort by sending letters and by your generosity. We need you!

Thank you.