

Proposed New Parish Council Guidelines and Voting, September 24-October 9, 2016

New proposed Parish Council Guidelines are available on-line for your review at the link below. Council Members will be available for questions next weekend after Masses in the vestibule and at Coffee Hours.

<http://www.stmalachi.org/church-news/proposed-new-parish-council-guidelines-voting-september-24-october-9-2016/>

Please review and vote on the proposed guidelines. A summary and diagram are on the site to help you understand the changes.

For questions, please contact Pat Masterson, Council Chair.
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Thank you for participating in this process for the benefit of St. Malachi Parish!

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A presentation about the guidelines was held on Sunday, September 25. Here is the answer to one of the questions about the proposed guidelines.

Q. What is “fully initiated” Catholic, and why is it in the proposed Guidelines for being eligible to serve on Parish Council?

A. A fully initiated Catholic has received the sacraments of Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation. According to U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops: “Anointed by the Holy Spirit at Confirmation, Christians strengthen their bond with the Church and become better equipped to carry out the Church’s mission of love and service.” This is in line with the leadership roles of council members: “The Council collaborates with the Pastor in guiding the life and pastoral ministry of St. Malachi Parish.” (proposed *Guidelines*, page 1, section II, “Purpose and Function of the Council”)

As for the rationale, one can think of this in relation to other organizations. For instance, top executives would be expected to be fully initiated into a company, as would members of the Board of Trustees or Governors. Similarly, although a family may consult with outside experts (legal, medical, financial, social services), the members of the family discuss and resolve family issues; rarely would a non-family member be allowed to determine a family’s course of action.