

PARISH COUNCIL AT-LARGE CANDIDATES

Profiled below are the six candidates for the five available At-Large Representatives for Parish Council. Voting begins Sunday, April 30 and continues through Sunday, May 14. Ballots are available at the church doors and also on the parish website: stmalachi.org. We are most grateful to our candidates for their willingness to serve on Parish Council. Nominating Committee: Norm Bringman, Cathy Graham, Cathy Jacob, or Judy Slivka



Kevin Burke

My name is Kevin Burke, and I have been a member of St. Malachi Parish since the mid-1990s after I moved to Northeast Ohio from the New York Metropolitan area. I live in Willoughby, Ohio with my wife Janet. Currently, I work at the NASA Safety Center located adjacent to the NASA Glenn Research Center. I serve as a mentor to the Alzin Family, our sponsored Syrian refugee family along with several other wonderful people, and participate in other parish ministries including communications and lecturing, and support Malachi Center. Focus areas for me on Parish Council will be to continue to support our ministries to serve those in our community and foster opportunities to collaborate with other parishes and community partners.



Jeannie Cleary-Burns

I'm Jeannie Cleary-Burns. I joined my husband Pat as a member of St. Malachi's when we were married here in 2005. I worked for 9 years with the National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved, and later with the Pastoral Planning Office of our Diocese. Presently I'm a caregiver, working with the elderly, and truly enjoy their friendship and wisdom. Pat and I were both widowed, and now we are delighted to share in the lives of my five grown children, and our 6 grandchildren. Currently, I serve on the Stewardship Commission, and am a Eucharistic Minister, Lector and Greeter, and a mentor to our refugee family. I love our parish, and I'm proud of our mission to be a prayerful community, serving each other and our brothers and sisters in need, and welcoming anyone who comes to our doors. It was an honor to serve on Parish Council from 2011-14, and I would be happy to serve again, in this time when the world so needs to experience God's love through our actions as a Christian people.



Chris Dusek

I'm Chris Dusek and my husband is Allen Myers. Our son, Alfredo, was adopted from Peru in 2000. I began to attend mass at St. Malachi's in about 1971 when I was missing the liturgy style at Ohio Dominican College. The St. Malachi neighbors were a lot like the people I was assigned to work with at my social service job at St. Vincent Charity Hospital. As I met people and volunteered on various committees, St Malachi became my spiritual home. Over the years I have grown to care about the people of St. Malachi Parish. I would be honored to be chosen to serve on your parish council.



Fran Lissemore

My family found a new parish home at St. Malachi in November 2010 after St. Cecilia's was closed. I was on parish council there for 3 years, and on the committee dealing with parish reconfigurations. I'd like to turn my experiences into positive contributions to St. Malachi's future. We (grown kids Emma, and Kevin, and husband Jim) live in Cleveland Heights but because of our connection to St. Malachi we think we're honorary West Siders (we are, aren't we??).

PARISH COUNCIL AT-LARGE CANDIDATES



Therese Mullen

My name is Therese Mullen, I have been a parishioner of St. Malachi Parish since 2011. I am currently involved as a mentor with the Migration and Refugee Services- Catholic Charities, volunteer with Malachi House and a longtime friend of L'Arche Cleveland. Currently I am employed with Key Investment Services as the Compliance Licensing and Registration Supervisor for the past 11 years. My appointment to the council would be accepted with much seriousness and commitment, with a willingness to service my fellow parishioners; bringing communication skills, new ideas and fresh vision.



Dawn Tarka

As a native Clevelander, I grew up in a west side suburb and received my education at Catholic schools. I have lived in Cleveland's West Park neighborhood for 12 years. Although I have been a member of St. Malachi parish for only 3 years, I have a strong family connection to this parish. My grandfather, a child of Irish immigrants, was born in a house on Washington St. and was baptized and attended grade school at St. Malachi. Professionally, I am a public servant. I have served as an attorney for state and local government for over 20 years. I currently work for the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority. In my spare time, I enjoy gardening, particularly growing vegetables. I can also be found riding my bike downtown to work, and even to St. Malachi's once in a while. At St. Malachi, I serve as a member of the Sunday morning choir. I am inspired by the spirituality and talent of the people around me. I am impressed by the incredible hospitality; I have not felt as welcome at any other church as I feel here. I am inspired by the many people in our parish who dedicate their time and talent to St. Malachi's many ministries. There is great need in our community and I see that the work of our parish truly makes a difference. My three years at St. Malachi have been a time of spiritual and personal growth. I would like to serve on parish council because I desire to give back to the parish that has welcomed me with open arms and I believe I have the ability to make a contribution. We have some challenges and opportunities ahead, particularly financial challenges. At the same time, the neighborhood around our church is changing, which may bring opportunities as well. While I may have some thoughts to offer as parish council considers how to move forward, it is most important for me to hear your ideas, thoughts and opinions and to bring them to parish council's discussions. I hope that you will choose me to serve in this capacity.