

Parish Pastoral Council 2014-2016 Nominee Biographies

Stephen Ayers (At-Large Representative) – I have been involved with Holy Family Catholic Church in Davidsonville, MD since 2000, when my family moved to the area and first joined the parish. For the past 14 years, I have served the church in a variety of capacities. I taught CCD for three years to grades six, seven, and eight. I am fully trained in marriage preparation and have successfully worked in this ministry for six years. I have also participated in Bible Study for three years and I have been an usher for nearly nine years. I have been involved with outreach to the local community and a regular participant in the annual Christmas tree giving for St. Gregory, driving gifts to inner city Baltimore, MD. I have assisted with preparing and serving the Lenten Friday night soup gatherings as part of the Bible Study group and participated in many retreats, blessings of animals, archbishop appeals, dinners, picnics, and confirmations. I have enjoyed my involvement with Holy Family Church and would like to continue contributing to the parish community by serving on the pastoral council.

L. Danny Brown (Liturgy Representative) – I am a “cradle” Roman Catholic, and I have been a member of Holy Family for the past 12 years. I have worked with the Liturgy Committee for the past three years, including service on various projects. Prior to serving on the Liturgy Committee I helped to clean the Chapel every two weeks for a number of years. Once a month I volunteer as Counter for the Sunday collections. I am also a member of the Holy Family Book Club, and an Usher for the 7:45 a.m. Mass. I retired from the American Gas Association where I was Director of Meeting Services. My department held over 200 Meetings a year throughout the United States, with attendance from 25 persons to 2,500. I consider working with people one of my strongest assets and I look forward to serving on the Parish Pastoral Council.

Sean Burke (At-Large Representative) – I have been a parishioner at Holy Family for approximately one year and have been attending Mass regularly since my wife and I relocated from Philadelphia to Davidsonville in September 2012. I’m originally from Vermont where I was very involved in my local parish as a Sunday School teacher and altar server. I graduated from Catholic University in 2004 and from Villanova Law School in 2007. I worked as an attorney at a law firm in Philadelphia from 2007 through 2012. My wife Lauren is from the Annapolis area and wanted to move closer to home as we decided to start a family. I was able to transfer to my firm’s DC office and I continue to work there as an associate in the trial practice group. My practice covers many areas but focuses primarily on commercial litigation and products liability defense. This past August, my wife and I were fortunate enough to welcome our first child, Maria Catherine. Maria was baptized at Holy Family this past weekend. I have greatly enjoyed my short time as a parishioner at Holy Family and welcome any opportunity to serve the parish as a member of the pastoral council.

Ann Dowling (Evangelization Representative) – My husband Kevin and I have been married for 24 years and have five children. I am a stay-at-home mom and have homeschooled our children for 18 years. We have been parishioners at Holy Family since we moved to Davidsonville five years ago. I have served as the Evangelization Pillar Representative on the Pastoral Council for the past two years and have been active with the Respect Life Committee and the Senior Luncheon Ministry as well. Additionally, I was a volunteer Natural Family Planning teacher for ten years as well as an NFP speaker for marriage prep programs. I have a real passion for pro-life, family, and marriage issues. I have also been a Monday evening adorant in the Perpetual Adoration Oratory since it opened a few years ago. I would consider it an honor to continue to serve Holy Family on the Parish Pastoral Council.

Loretta Haring (Stewardship Representative) – I have been a parishioner at Holy Family Church since 1992 and presently represent Fellowship on the Pastoral Council. I became a member of Holy Family because it felt very welcoming and supportive compared to other churches that I had attended. In an effort to help others feel as welcome, I have been actively involved with Fellowship for more than 12 years and have served as the Fellowship representative on the council for around 5 years. I have a daughter, Rachel, who attends Archbishop Spalding High School who also is very active on the Fellowship Committee. In addition to Fellowship activities, we also have volunteered for the Winter Relief program. I also am on the Board of the Friends of St. John's College and served for more than 6 years on the Anne Arundel County Partnership Board for the United Way of Central Maryland. I currently work for Crisis 1 for the United States Coast Guard after working for 25 years at The Capital newspaper.

Rick Hess (At-Large Representative) – My wife Mary Beth and I have been parishioners at Holy Family since 2004. We have been married for 10 years and we have two children, Rosalie and Lily, who both participate in CCD. Mary Beth has been a CCD teacher and a Cenacle leader. I participated in Holy Family's 2010 RCIA class and was Confirmed at the 2011 Easter Vigil. I have served on the Parish Pastoral Council since 2011 during which time I worked with the Development Committee, served as the Council Secretary and as the Council Vice-Chairperson. I also volunteer for Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. I was born and raised in New Jersey where I practiced law, specializing in professional liability defense, and served in the public sector as a municipal prosecutor and as a condemnation commissioner. I previously worked as the executive director of a non-profit fraternal and educational foundation, and for the past 14 years I have worked at the U. S. Department of Justice. In my spare time I volunteer as a hunter safety instructor and my wife and I are sponsor parents for Naval Academy midshipmen. I welcome the opportunity to be of further service to the church.

Mary Ann Jensen (At-Large Representative) – I have been a member of Holy Family for 32 years and have served as an Extraordinary Minister for 22 years. In past years I have volunteered for different events and most recently for the Winter Relief program. I would feel privileged to be part of the Pastoral Council to help work towards keeping Holy Family a strong community in faith and commitment to community. I am proud to be on a team that the goal is to strengthen the faith of each person entering our doors and especially to draw more parishioners to join in and be active at Holy Family. I feel every parishioner has something special to offer.

Katherine Lemanski (Youth Representative)

John Mantini (At-Large Representative) – My wife Barbara and I have been members of Holy Family Parish since August 1999. During the past 13 years at Holy Family I have served as a lector, Extraordinary Minister, and Extraordinary Minister for shut-in parishioners. From 2007-2008 I served a tour in Iraq and was a lector and Extraordinary Minister for the embassy community and participated in efforts to ensure the Christian community in Baghdad could enjoy religious freedom. Prior to joining Holy Family, my wife and I lived in Destin, FL, and were members of Christ Our Redeemer Parish where I served as a Extraordinary Minister and lector. As an Air Force family, we participated in Catholic Parishes in Dayton, OH, Rapid City, SD, West Berlin, GE, and Springfield, VA. I currently work for the Millennium Challenge Corporation in Washington, DC as an attorney and Barb teaches CCD.

Mary Ann Sabo (At-Large Representative) – I live in Edgewater MD with my husband, Steve and our four children, Nicholas, Katie, Chris, and Zachary. Nicholas and Katie both have special needs, Chris is in college, and Zachary is in middle school. I have been a member of Holy Family for 9 years. I work full time as a Travel Agent and have been with SatoTravel for 24 years. I am active in the Faith and Abilities Ministry, the Mom's Ministry, and I have taught CCD for several years. I am also involved with the Anne Arundel County Commission on Persons with Disabilities. I am a true advocate for disabled persons and I feel we need to educate society about disabilities in our community so that everyone can be treated equally. I am devoted to speaking for those who are unable to speak for themselves. In my previous parish at Andrews Air Force Base, I served on the Parish Council for several years, was a member of our Helping Hands Ministry, taught CCD, Baptismal classes, and participated in advocating and educating our school children about disabilities.

Lynda Turner (Education Representative) – I have been a member of Holy Family with my husband, Andrew, since we moved to Davidsonville 14 years ago. We have been married 20 years and have four daughters who are active in the church and community. We also have a sponsor "daughter" from the Naval Academy. I am involved with the MOMS Ministry and religious education/children's ministries. My husband is a lector and our two oldest daughters are altar servers. I have been a nurse practitioner for 15 years and serve part time as an assistant director of student health at a local college. I look forward to continuing service on the Parish Pastoral Council as the Education/Formation representative.

Jack Weaver (At-Large Representative) - My wife Maureen Flanagan and adult daughters Meghan, Emma and Julia, and I began attending Holy Family in Davidsonville in 2001, becoming parishioners shortly afterwards. While Maureen and my three daughters are lifelong Catholics, I converted to the faith participating in RCIA at Holy Family. I am a licensed Architect. In private practice since 1986, I design a wide variety of residential, commercial and institutional projects. In addition to my independent private practice, I am also a Principal with Consolidated Engineering working on large design build and government projects. I am a LEED AP and Green Roof and Wall Professional (GRP). I am active in a variety of volunteer efforts. I am a Maryland Master Gardener, an Anne Arundel County Master Watershed Steward and a Green Leader with the Maryland Association of Environmental and Outdoor Education. I also work with Southern High School in Harwood assisting in development and implementation of the School's Signature Program on Design and Restoration. I look forward to the opportunity to serve on the Parish Council and apply my personal and professional skills to further the important mission of Holy Family Catholic Church.

Maureen Williams Laski (Service Representative) – I am a native Washingtonian who graduated from Trinity College in D.C. and who loves Congress and, especially, the Supreme Court. My family is Catholic and my father was a DC detective. Consequently, my father taught me how to help people. For instance, one of the nuns at St. Cecilia's High School suggested we visit The Little Sisters of the Poor nearby. When we reached The Little Sisters, none of my friends would visit the top level whereby the women were very old and ill. All were always in bed. Some would talk and others would cry. I would always sit with each woman; hold her hand, and ask about her family. By the end of our visit, all of the women would have a smile on their face. When we returned to St. Cecilia's, everyone wanted and did visit the top level. When we moved to Oxon Hill, MD, I was in the Parish Council for about six years. It was a great opportunity for me to meet more of the parishioners. In 2001, we moved to Davidsonville. After I retired in 2010, I again have had the opportunity to help people and am very pleased being a female usher!