



HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL 2018 ELECTION

CANDIDATES



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QUALITIES OF EFFECTIVE PPC MEMBERS

One who would like to serve as a member of the PPC:

- *engages in regular personal prayer;*
- *has been an active parishioner, involved in the life of the parish for at least two years;*
- *has pledged to worship with the parish community at Sunday Eucharist as often as possible, to participate in some parish ministry, and to support the parish financially;*
- *has participated in some parish-sponsored retreat or prayer program or event;*
- *is capable of thinking broadly and strategically and without uncontrolled bias, and has a mind and heart open to the “magis,” that is, what is for the greater good;*
- *is willing to serve as a PPC member for at least three years.*

One who is selected to serve on the PPC will be expected to:

- *participate with other PPC members in other ongoing formation programs that are designed to deepen their understanding of Jesuit identity and mission and the ways of proceeding that are appropriate to the PPC;*
- *participate in scheduled PPC meetings as faithfully as possible; and*
- *observe or otherwise participate in parish activities and ministries so as to be familiar with the parish’s efforts to be faithful to its identity and to carry out its mission.*

For more information about the role of the PPC and its way of proceeding, please visit www.trinity.org/ppc.

VOTE

- **Online** at www.trinity.org/ppc-election from June 2-11
- **In person** (ballots available in the back of the church after Mass unless otherwise noted):
Saturday, June 2: 5:30pm Vigil
Sunday, June 3: 7:30am, 9:30am (McKenna Hall), 11:30am (McKenna Hall), 1:15pm, 5:30pm
Saturday, June 9: 5:30pm Vigil
Sunday, June 10: 7:30am, Parish Picnic (Georgetown Visitation), 11:30am, 1:15pm, 5:30pm



Kevin Barquinero

Why do you want to be a part of the PPC at Holy Trinity? What gifts, visions and talents would you bring that would contribute to the work of the parish?

To be a person for others...and Fr Kevin. I have been a parishioner for six years. Holy Trinity swiftly embraced me and is a central and essential part of my life. After mass one Sunday evening, Fr Kevin stopped me and suggested I consider joining the council. At first I was hesitant. Later, after speaking more with Fr Kevin, other council members, and friends, I realized that joining the Parish Pastoral Council is a practical way for me to give thanks and serve. My gifts etcetera: first is my superb Jesuit education (Fordham) which led directly to my coming to Washington as a civil servant. Later I became an entrepreneur/CEO and am now a consultant. I was also a pilgrim on the Camino de Santiago. Educationally, professionally, and spiritually, I feel I am well suited to be PPC member.

Which activities, such as social justice service, parish-sponsored prayer opportunities, or other ministries that you have been a part of at Holy Trinity have been the most meaningful to you? Why?

I am confounder and an organizer of the Trinity Adult Singles group, an over 40 group of single parishioners and friends who gather together monthly to develop and nurture friendships and enjoy social, service, and spiritual activities. TAS is a spinoff of the Separated, Divorced, and Widowed Group, another wonderful and effective parish ministry. I have participated in two Ignatian retreats and attended many "Movie Moments of Grace" showings. Lastly, every Saturday morning I enjoy joining friends for daily mass followed by coffee, apple fritters, and delightful conversation. Why are these activities meaningful? Relationship. An ineffable quality of Holy Trinity is how it fosters relationship. My personal goal for being a council member is to learn more about this spirit.

Based on your involvement at Holy Trinity, what are some high-priority issues that might need to be addressed in a long-term plan for the parish?

Holy Trinity has a large cohort of single people, which is unique for a parish and commendable. I believe our Jesuit identity is the key reason that parishioners like me find a spiritual home here. Having said that, parishes naturally gravitate towards serving families. As part of the parish council I will advocate for an increased attention to the spiritual needs of our single parishioners.

Outside of Holy Trinity I have many Catholic friends and acquaintances that no longer belong to any parish and do not attend mass, including Christmas and Easter, yet they still identify as Catholic. From personal experience I know that Holy Trinity is uniquely qualified to invite, welcome, and once here, embrace them. How we as a community can do this more consciously is a question I would like to investigate as a member of the Parish Pastoral Council.



Tania Chomiak-Salvi

Why do you want to be part of the PPC at Holy Trinity? What gifts, visions, and talents would you bring that would contribute to the work of the parish?

Whatever Mass I attend at Trinity, I am surrounded by people concerned with the state of the world, faithful in God's work through us, and—therefore—dedicated to serving others. Holy Trinity's community is admirable for our spirit, dedication and awareness of social justice. I value our clear sense of mission (ACT) and our increasingly streamlined fundraising. I want to represent parishioners in discerning that strategy and maintaining the vision. A 25-year diplomatic career left me with skills to pinpoint goals and apply just the right resources to achieve them. A communications and advocacy professional, I make sense of ideas and present them simply and appropriately to get the job done. I am so excited about the spirit of Holy Trinity, and I would like to be a channel for that spirit into practical action of helping advise Father Gillespie run this institution.

Which activities, such as social justice service, parish-sponsored prayer opportunities, or other ministries that you have been a part of at Holy Trinity have been the most rewarding to you? Why?

We have been parishioners since 2012. For three years, I served on the Ignatian Spirituality Committee as a representative of the HTS parents. Our early morning meetings showed me how Ignatian spirituality is imbued in all activities and ministries at Trinity. Serving on the committee, I also came to understand how many different people and ministries build the entire Holy Trinity community. When we completed the PAR process, I worked with fellow committee members on larger strategic questions and our history.

At the parish, I have participated in social justice projects, helped organize simple suppers, seen my sons through sacraments, played at Camp Trinity and completed two retreats and the Principium program. Among all of these activities, it was the ongoing committee work that gave me the greatest sense of contributing steadily to the health of the parish. I would welcome that type of work again.

Based on your involvement at Holy Trinity, what are some high-priority issues that might need to be addressed in a long-term plan for the parish?

The pews at Holy Trinity Masses are deceptively homogeneous. A curious guest might walk into the church, see the well-heeled, predominantly white congregation, and feel unwelcome. It takes but a few conversations with parishioners, though, to understand the diversity of experience, backgrounds and opinions, and to understand the spirit that fires us up. I would like to join the important ongoing work of broadening our diversity and extending our relationships throughout the city.

Closer to home, I want to continue to draw the school and the rest of the parish into a single identity formed by Ignatian spirituality. The population of the school is minuscule compared to that of the parish, but this is a group of children and families who embrace the Ignatian way of being every day. The school and the parish have a shared mission and vision, which we will really see and appreciate during these two anniversary years.



Richard Coll

Why do you want to be part of the PPC at Holy Trinity? What gifts, visions, and talents would you bring that would contribute to the work of the parish?

My family and I have been parishioners at Holy Trinity for over ten years, and have a strong commitment to the Ignatian and Jesuit traditions. We are graduates of Jesuit institutions and previously were parishioners at St. Ignatius Loyola in New York, where we lived for many years. I can say unreservedly how much I love this heritage and our Ignatian community, particularly in the dignity and mission entrusted to the laity to play an active role in ministry. In my professional work I assist dioceses and parishes that require special help due to economic and social challenges. I believe this experience, and my own knowledge of and devotion to the Jesuit heritage, will enable me to work collaboratively both on the PPC and with all our parishioners and staff to help incarnate the charism of our parish.

Which activities, such as social justice service, parish-sponsored prayer opportunities, or other ministries that you have been a part of at Holy Trinity have been the most rewarding to you? Why?

I have been blessed to be a member of the parish Social Justice Committee and currently to help in the RCIA program. These have been wonderful opportunities to learn of our Catholic Social Thought traditions and to participate in putting them into practice. But perhaps the activity that is of greatest meaning to me is the role of lector and Eucharistic minister that I have been blessed to assume. To see the Body of Christ alive in our parish members at liturgy during the undertaking of these roles is one of the greatest joys I have experienced.

Based on your involvement at Holy Trinity, what are some high-priority issues that might need to be addressed in a long-term plan for the parish?

I have often been amazed, given my experiences and work at other parishes, to see how active, engaged and committed our Holy Trinity members are in the ministry of our parish community. I would like to assist in building on this wonderful heritage by continuing communication and outreach efforts to engage all members of our community to assure that we have as diverse and inclusive a parish, from a cultural, linguistic and familial background, as possible, to grow and enrich our experience and blessings of mission to the greatest degree.



Sara DeCarlo

Why do you want to be part of the PPC at Holy Trinity? What gifts, visions, and talents would you bring that would contribute to the work of the parish?

My family has been an active part of the Holy Trinity community for 20+ years. As the coordinator hired to support the Parish Assessment and Renewal initiative, I had the opportunity to attend the parish council meetings and attend many meetings of the various ministries. I was impressed by the work the Council to increase communication with the ministries and parishioners and want to see that work continue. I was actively involved with establishing the parish mission statement and vision and monitored the goals set by each ministry. I am eager to work with the parish, staff and council to think about the future of this Holy Trinity and where we want to be in the next 5 years and put in place a plan to get there.

Which activities, such as social justice service, parish-sponsored prayer opportunities, or other ministries that you have been a part of at Holy Trinity have been the most rewarding to you? Why?

My day typically begins with 8 AM mass at Trinity and has for the past 8 years. You can see me walking over Key Bridge most mornings as I get my morning exercise, attend mass and get my “thought for the day” based on the sermon, and then head back over the bridge to Rosslyn. This start to my day gives me time for reflection and prayer. I served as vice-chair for 3 years on the Giving Tree Committee and, in addition, I have been on the Counting (Sunday donations) committee for the past year.

When my husband, Nick DeCarlo, was a Holy Trinity teacher and my daughter, Katie DeCarlo (now Khanijoun) was a Trinity student, I was the wife/mother supporting them in so many ways. Daughter, Katie, became a Trinity teacher as well and even taught my twin grandsons... so you could say that Trinity is in my DNA!

Beyond Holy Trinity, I was a founding member and serve on the board of Bright Beginnings, a child development center for homeless preschoolers; am chairman of the board of my condominium association; and, am leading a project to deliver medical supplies and equipment to HIV-impacted individuals in Kenya.

Based on your involvement at Holy Trinity, what are some high-priority issues that might need to be addressed in a long-term plan for the parish?

In a parish as large and diverse as Holy Trinity, it is a continuing challenge to engage as many parishioners as possible in the work and activities of the parish. A major priority that came from the Parish Assessment was the desire for so many parishioners to feel welcome, included, embraced by the parish. There are so many ways to be engaged at Trinity yet so often it is a personal contact that makes all the difference. My personal goal would be to look for creative ways to support our parish mission to “welcome all to accompany one another in Christ; celebrate God’s love; and, transform lives.” The Parish Council should ensure a sound foundation in the Jesuit tradition is solidly in place to meet our mission.



John Dolan

Why do you want to be part of the PPC at Holy Trinity? What gifts, visions, and talents would you bring that would contribute to the work of the parish?

I have been a parishioner at Holy Trinity at three different phases of my life. My first time was when I was living in Glover Park with a bunch of my Penn State buddies after I graduated from college. Graduate school resulted in a move out of the area and I returned to DC several years later as a young married man. In the late 90's, my wife Teresa and I often walked from our little apartment on 30th and P Streets to come to Mass. Our first son was born at Georgetown in 2000 and was baptized at Holy Trinity. A career opportunity resulted in another move, and then, eleven years later, another return, this time as a (less young) family man. I believe these three phases have provided me with unique perspectives that will lend themselves quite well to the PPC.

Which activities, such as social justice service, parish-sponsored prayer opportunities, or other ministries that you have been a part of at Holy Trinity have been the most rewarding to you? Why?

When I returned to Holy Trinity in 2013, I was cajoled by my former boss to join the Communications committee. The following year, I served as the liaison from this committee to the School Advisory Board (SAB), as my sons were Holy Trinity students. In subsequent years, I served as the SAB's Vice President, President, and Past President. I am also a lector at the 5:30 Mass. My family has also served in the Winter Shelter the last two Christmas Eves.

I love the sense of community that a committee brings and the satisfaction that comes when we solve a problem. As a lector, I'm honored to share the word of the Lord, and the time I spend in advance reflecting on the reading is a wonderful benefit. Making the celebration of Christmas a little brighter for the guests of the Winter Shelter is something my family will always remember.

Based on your involvement at Holy Trinity, what are some high-priority issues that might need to be addressed in a long-term plan for the parish?

I feel so proud to be part of this wonderful community, and I still find myself just looking around at times during Mass and marveling at the beauty, not just of the facility, but of the parishioners and all of the walks of life they represent--families, seniors, college students, young adults, the "50+"ers, etc. I believe we can build upon the activities for community building to make sure that all feel welcome and can find their place to contribute in a way that suits their needs. In addition, as the father of two HTS alums, as an educator, and the product of a Catholic education myself, I feel that having a vibrant and thriving school is a crucial ingredient for the health of a parish. As such, I believe it is important that HTS plays a strong role in the parish and that it receives the resources it needs to continue to succeed.



Jimmy Ervin

Why do you want to be part of the PPC at Holy Trinity? What gifts, visions, and talents would you bring that would contribute to the work of the parish?

My wife, children and I have been HT parishioners for over 17 years. I went through RCIA at Holy Trinity and officially joined the faith 9 years ago. I feel a strong connection to Holy Trinity and believe serving on the PPC would be a rewarding way to stay connected and serve the parish. I own a marketing agency and believe my experience in organizational management and communications could be an asset in helping the parish pursue and deliver meaningful initiatives that serve all in our parish community.

Which activities, such as social justice service, parish-sponsored prayer opportunities, or other ministries that you have been a part of at Holy Trinity have been the most rewarding to you? Why?

While our three children attended HTS, I served on the School Advisory Board and Home & School Association for three years including one year as President. I co-founded the Holy Trinity School Father's Club and am currently working on the HTS 200th Anniversary committee. I believe it is important to become and stay involved with the parish as *community is one of the most important elements of our faith development.*

Based on your involvement at Holy Trinity, what are some high-priority issues that might need to be addressed in a long-term plan for the parish?

As a member of the PPC, I would like to help promote an agenda that helps deliver activities that appeal to the varied needs of our parishioners. I also believe we can use the school's 200th Anniversary this year and the parish's 225th Anniversary in 2019 as an opportunity to bring the school and parish communities even closer together in celebration of Holy Trinity's mission.



Jim Thessin

Why do you want to be part of the PPC at Holy Trinity? What gifts, visions, and talents would you bring that would contribute to the work of the parish? Which activities, such as social justice service, parish-sponsored prayer opportunities, or other ministries that you have been a part of at Holy Trinity have been the most rewarding to you? Why? Based on your involvement at Holy Trinity, what are some high-priority issues that might need to be addressed in a long-term plan for the parish?

Note: Jim Thessin chose to reply to the three prompts in a single, comprehensive response.

Holy Trinity has been instrumental in helping my faith grow over these last 35 years. Three years ago after retiring from government service, I joined the Parish Council. Working with faith-filled Council colleagues, we have tried to broaden our outreach to the parishioners to advise the pastor more wisely on how Holy Trinity can be more inclusive, can better educate our parishioners in our faith, better coordinate its activities and be more focused upon its Ignatian mission.

After prayerful reflection, I am seeking a second Council term. As an individual, I have been tried during my three years of Council service to address more intensively my spirituality and to attempt to grow as a leader who listens and serves. The Lenten retreat, the Ignatian Principium presentations and the Holy Land pilgrimage have deepened my understanding of how, and that, we must be open to the Spirit working through us within the parish and in the world. My Council years has also sharpened my ability to work collectively with other Council members to advise Fr. Gillespie, helping me to draw better upon my training and experience as an attorney, diplomat and government executive. My lengthy years in Catholic schools, much post-Vatican II, my multiyear involvement in numerous parish activities (including as a Eucharistic Minister, religious education teacher of teens, and 9:00 AM usher) and my more recent training in Ignatian spirituality have helped ground me in the principles of our faith and provided a stronger foundation from which I could attempt to discern the signs of the times.

If chosen for a second term, I would focus on several things:

- My years teaching teens in religious education, working with youth Confirmation candidates, calling youth to be ushers, serving on the Education committee – all have convinced me that Holy Trinity must work ceaselessly to help youths and adults alike better understand our faith and be called to deepen it.
- My years as an usher and as one who regularly tries to greet others at liturgy and coffee have convinced me that Holy Trinity must always be a welcoming community where all may find God and deepen their faith.
- My years of Catholic schooling where I learned intellectually that God created us in God's image and my years working on human rights issues as a diplomat have reaffirmed that, as the Body of Christ, our parish must go forth to the world beyond our walls to serve others and show God's love.

To be Council members who offer wise advice to Father Gillespie, we need God's help and your prayers. The people of God who make up Holy Trinity parish each has wonderful gifts and the Spirit is strong in each of us, whether on the Council or not. Whoever becomes Council members will need your best advice and full support as we seek together to carry out our Parish's mission and God's work.