

PASTORAL COUNCIL CANDIDATES continued . . .



Kimberly Menke

Why are you running for this leadership position? I'm running for this leadership position because I think it's time for me to give back to my parish. For years I've been a member, but always just given a smidge of my time - like through choir or the giving trees - and blamed it on a hectic work schedule. My schedule is more under my control now, so it's time to step up to the plate.

What gifts do you bring to this leadership position in this faith community?

Being sure of what gifts I bring to this leadership position is a little tough, since we all view ourselves through lenses. However, I'm pretty confident I bring the ability to listen, the ability to organize, an enthusiastic attitude - "young at heart" and a willingness to do whatever task needs doing - i.e. morning cleanup at Fun Days.

How do you carry out the Christian mission in your life, home and parish? I like to think I carry out the Christian mission in my life, home and parish through my actions. In my parish, I try to give such as through choir and participating in mass. In my home, I try to be welcoming and a good neighbor such as helping others rake leaves and shovel snow. In my life, I try to "do unto others as you would have them do unto you".

FAITH FORMATION COMMISSION CANDIDATES



Jerry Cleveland

Why are you running for this leadership position? My wife and I moved back to Northeast Iowa and became members of St. Joseph Parish in 2016. I recently retired and would like to devote more time to our parish and community. Given my previous experiences and background, I would like the opportunity to work collaboratively with other parishioners and our pastor to help fulfill the church's mission, vision and goals.

What gifts do you bring to this leadership position in this faith community? I was a charter member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Hiawatha and served on the finance and pastoral councils before moving to Wisconsin in 1998. I was a member of the finance council at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Marshfield, WI from 2004 - 2015. I have 48 years of healthcare experience with the last 38 years in senior

executive positions in Iowa and Wisconsin. I have a bachelors degree in business and a masters degree in healthcare administration. I have a willingness and ability to work hard for the welfare of our parish.

How do you carry out the Christian mission in your life, home and parish? I try to actively bring balance to several areas of life including my spiritual aspect. I set aside time to read scripture and pray daily. My wife and I were married at Holy Rosary Church in Fort Dodge in 1970 and have been married 47 years. Our three sons attended St. Pius X School and graduated from Regis High School in 1990, 1993, and 1996. As noted above, I've been active in parish life wherever we've lived. I would now like the opportunity to be more involved in the parish life at St. Joseph's.



ST. JOSEPH
Catholic Church

CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES AND INFORMATION

**FOR ST. JOSEPH PARISH ELECTIONS
MAY 19 & 20, 2018**

**School Board
Pastoral Council
Faith Formation Commission**

CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES



Robyn Ginther

Why are you running for this leadership position? My children have been students at St. Joseph School for seven years. Over this time, I have watched them learn and grow and felt as my heart opened up to the Catholic faith. Choosing St. Joseph Parish and School was a turning point in my spiritual life; it allowed entrance into a church family that I didn't know I was missing. I feel moved to return the support and community that has been given to me. I am running for Catholic School Board because I am an advocate for Catholic education and my children, and because I feel called to do so.

What gifts do you bring to this leadership position in this faith community?

Being a parent of St. Joseph School children has given me opportunities to serve on several committees within the school and volunteer in various Scout related areas. I have found that I enjoy working with others and, at times, have a unique perspective to offer. I am a fairly new convert to the Roman Catholic church and know that I have much to learn about my faith. Due to this, I ask many questions and research unfamiliar topics until I feel I have a good understanding of them. I am direct and honest in my opinions and unafraid to admit when I am wrong - even if it pains me to do so.

How do you carry out the Christian mission in your life, home and parish? As a family, we attend Mass every week at St. Joseph, pray daily within our home, and offer up our thanks to God at mealtimes. I am involved in the Spiritual Life Committee at St. Joseph, volunteer within the school and at Vacation Bible School, and am an adult leader for my daughter's American Heritage Girl troop. Recently, I have followed my spiritual calling to become a Sacristan and find great joy preparing for the celebration of the Eucharist. I strive daily to reflect my beliefs with my actions and to nurture, in my children, an unshakable faithfulness in God and a willingness to serve where He leads. It has, at times, been a rocky road but the light of Christ is guiding our way.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES continued . . .



Jennifer Decker

Why are you running for this leadership position? I grew up in the Catholic School System and graduated from Columbus Catholic High School as did my husband. Our oldest two children are currently enrolled at St. Joseph and our youngest will be in preschool at St. Joseph next year. We have been members of St. Joseph since we moved here in 2007. I feel compelled to give back to the parish for the excellent faith-filled education I received and my children are currently receiving.

What gifts do you bring to this leadership position in this faith community?

As a Certified Public Accountant I bring many gifts to the board. I have a high attention to detail, financial insight, strong communication and listening skills. I enjoy budget discussions as well as review of financial reports. I currently and previously have served on committees in the Archdiocese of Dubuque as well as at St. Joseph School. I am a current board member for the Our Faith, Our Children, Our Future School Tuition Organization. I currently serve as the Secretary of the St. Joseph Catholic School Board and as a member of the Public Relations Committee. In past years I have served as Chargers Vice-President, President and Volunteer Coordinator, the coordinator for Scrip and on the Shamrock Committee.

How do you carry out the Christian mission in your life, home and parish? My husband and I are committed to providing a Catholic education for our children. We carry out the Christian mission by instilling Christian values in our children by sharing our time, talents and treasure with others. We pray regularly, participate in mass and support our parish. I feel that volunteering in various capacities throughout the parish and school is a great way to carry out the Christian mission. I would be honored to serve another term on the St. Joseph Catholic School Board.

Stephanie Mazzella



Why are you running for this leadership position? I am running for this leadership position because as a mother with three children in the catholic school system and one currently at St. Joseph, I care deeply about our schools, our children and faith based and academic based career they will have there. I am also concerned about our ever changing school atmosphere, school safety and overall environment we send our children to every day. I only want to make it the best place possible for our kids to be prepared for their future.

What gifts do you bring to this leadership position in this faith community?

I am currently serving on the PR Committee and I am also a room mom for my 3rd grader at St. Josephs. I bring the gifts of a drive to get things done for our kids and school. Our world is forever changing, our kids are continuously learning and I want to be a part of that. I can multitask, take on challenges as they come and move forward to get things done.

How do you carry out the Christian mission in your life, home and parish? We try to be good people, volunteer, help others, volunteer in our schools, donate when possible and give thanks at home or in church for all we are blessed with. I volunteer my time at HACAP and the Humane Society. My main goal as a stay at home mom is to help my children be good people and use their talents to help others.

PASTORAL COUNCIL CANDIDATES



Aaron Randolph

Why are you running for this leadership position? It will be an opportunity to work more closely with the parish leadership and it will be an opportunity to thank the parish and the church for all they have done for me and my family. I learned from my parents that we all have a responsibility to our community and we each live up to that responsibility through service to others.

What gifts do you bring to this leadership position in this faith community? I have served in a wide variety of leadership positions through my work, and as a volunteer in the community. A few examples of my volunteer leadership are service as the Xavier Foundation Parish Appeal Chair, past president of the local

Hawkeye Area Council Boy Scouts, past president of the Downtown Kiwanis Club, current member and past chair for the Archdiocese of Dubuque Catholic Committee on Scouting, and current service on a regional leadership board for the Boy Scouts of America. I am also a 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus. The gifts I bring I've learned through volunteering over the years. I believe I am a good leader as well as a good follower, I work hard to listen more than I talk so that I can better understand other points of view, and as an Eagle Scout I've learned to strive to live by the Scout oath & law.

How do you carry out the Christian mission in your life, home and parish? My wife Jean and I have been married for 41 years, and have 3 children and 7 grandchildren, all of whom are practicing Catholics. I do quite a bit of volunteer work in the Boy Scouts locally and nationally, and one of my involvements is with the local Catholic Committee on Scouting. I work as a counselor for youth who wish to learn more about our faith through religious study programs. Last year I was the facilitator for this program for high school age young men. I also serve on the Catholic Committee for Scouting for the Archdiocese of Dubuque. My wife & I have served as a sponsor couple for engaged couples preparing for marriage for the past few years and I have been a Eucharistic minister for many years. Jean and I work to share our blessings of time, talent and treasure regularly and we are currently working through the 'Spice Up Your Marriage' book we got at the recent parish mission with Fr. Leo.



David Adams

Why are you running for this leadership position? St. Joseph parishioners nominated me for a Parish leadership position. When asked to serve our parish, I have always tried to serve with guidance or physical help.

What gifts do you bring to this leadership position in this faith community? My wife and I were married at St. Joseph Church during 1979. Later, as members of two other out-of-state parishes, we and our two children returned to Marion and St. Joseph Parish during 1993. I have observed and witnessed the value of a strong faith filled parish family. Topics for which I could provide suggestions and guidance to the Pastoral Council include continuing and developing programs for the spiritual health of the parish and

identifying items for maintaining and improving the physical plant for the parish to provide an effective, safe, and comfortable physical environment for parish activities. As an engineer, I have learned and offer a methodical approach for planning, innovation, problem solving and solution implementation for many types of social and technical initiatives.

How do you carry out the Christian mission in your life, home and parish? Strive to lead my life treating people fairly and to provide a good example of a high ethical standard as a husband, father, grandfather and member of the community. Actively participate with parish liturgical ministries including Lector, Minister of Holy Communion, Minister of Hospitality and Greeter. Participate with parish spiritual enrichment missions and programs such as "Alpha" and "That Man is You". Was a sponsor for a candidate in the RCIA process. Was one of the St. Joseph parishioners who were original members of the Cedar Rapids area Catholic Evangelization Outreach. Member of Knights of Columbus Council #5390, Marion.