

Pastoral Council

Since 1981, our diocese has mandated the establishment of a parish Pastoral Council as a consultative group to the pastor to promote community, be a sign and witness of unity, and to discern God's will and determine the pastoral plan of the Parish. According to diocesan guidelines, the role and purpose of the Pastoral Council is: "...to assist the pastor in pastoral planning by investigating pastoral matters through a variety of means, pondering them in a prayerful discernment process, and proposing recommendations." We are pleased to introduce you to our 2023-2024 Parish of the Holy Eucharist Pastoral Council Members.



Tom Ancona, HM

Tom, his wife Laura, and their two sons have been parishioners in the Parish of the Holy Eucharist, active at Holy Martyrs since moving to Falmouth from Chicago in 2016. Tom works as a staff member at Bowdoin College and enjoys outdoor activities, their pets, and visiting family locally and in Texas.



Fernando Barrera, SH

Fernando was born and raised in Houston, TX and has been a parishioner of POTHE since moving to his wife Alana's hometown of Falmouth, ME in 2014. Fernando and Alana are blessed with four children who attend St. Brigid School. He works as a psychiatric physician at InterMed.



Genn Branco, SJ

Genn, a POTHE parishioner attending St. Jude for over 6 years, has been grateful for the many opportunities to get involved. Genn serves as a reader, assists during various holy days, and helps with church activities. She has enjoyed many blessings by being involved.



Michelle Cianchette, SH

Michelle is a lifelong Mainer and a convert to Catholicism. She and her husband feel blessed to be raising their three children in our Catholic community. She's filled with excitement to learn and live out her faith and help others do the same. Finding her faith has forever changed her. She is very grateful.



Arturo Juarez, SH

Born and raised in Mexico, our Lord brought Arturo to Maine in 2011. He and his wife of 24 years have two children. Arturo serves the Mass at Sacred Heart in various capacities, is a Knight of Columbus, a previous Pastoral Council Member, and has facilitated faith formation and Bible Study Classes. Arturo has completed two of his five years of formation to the permanent diaconate.



Mary LaRochelle, HM

Mary is a dedicated wife and mother, finding fulfillment in homeschooling, running her own business and outreach, and managing social media for the Parish. She also has a love for books, podcasts, and gardening, and enjoys camping adventures with her family.



Danielle Tracy, HM, Chair

Danielle with husband, Mark, have been POTHE members attending Holy Martyrs for 27 years. They raised three boys in Falmouth with much love and guidance through the church. Danielle works with local food pantries and coordinates our three big holiday food drives at Holy Martyrs.



Scott Valcourt, SGTG

Scott and his wife, Michelle, reside in Gray. A native of Auburn, Scott is an associate teaching professor of computer science at the Roux Institute. He serves as a reader, is the diocesan Scout chairman of the Catholic Committee on Scouting, and a Knight of Columbus. He is an avid gardener.



Finance Council



The 1983 Code of Canon Law introduced a new and separate consultative body to parish life, the finance council. Its purpose is to provide the pastor with a group of Christian faithful, who will aid him in the administration of parish goods by providing expertise and consultation through financial analysis, planning, budgeting, and policy development. The Finance Council ensures close observance of church and civil law in all financial, business, and administrative matters of the Parish. We are pleased to introduce you to our 2023-2024 Parish of the Holy Eucharist Finance Council Members.



Melissa Bagdon, SGTG

Melissa, with her husband, Jeff of 35 years, has three grown children and two grandchildren, who keep her active and entertained. A POTHE member at St. Gregory the Great since 2003, she previously served on the finance council and as the parish business manager. She manages an independent grocery store in Gray.



Steve Carrier, SGTG

Steve and his wife, Cindy, reside in Gray. They've been with POTHE for 32 years and currently attend Mass at St. Gregory the Great. Steve is retired from accounting/sales and Cindy is a retired nurse. Steve organized and directed our parish's involvement in the Yarmouth Clam Festival for 18 years.



Fran Fedrizzi, SJ

Fran, a parishioner for 19 years, lives in Pownal. He serves as a Sacristan, an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and helps with the parish RCIA program. He is a Sr. Manager of IT Operations at L.L. Bean and is a big fan of Syracuse Orange basketball. He travels, bikes, hikes, and dabbles in woodcarving.



Steve Mitchell, Chair, HM

Steve is a Maine native and has been a member of the parish for over 30 years. He has served as a religious education teacher, an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and as both member and chair of the Finance Council. Steve lives in Cumberland with his wife and dogs.



Jim O'Connell, SH

Jim, with five years on the council, offers us 40+ years of experience from various finance and technical management positions. He has a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Notre Dame and an MBA from USM. Jim lives in Yarmouth with his wife, Gail. They have two sons, Michael (40) and Daniel (35).



Joe Powers, SH

Joe and wife, Tania of 29 years, attend Mass at all four POTHE churches, have two children in college, and reside in Yarmouth. Joe volunteers at the Catholic Foundation of Maine, for which he takes a board position in January. His volunteering commitment comes from emulating his devout parents' example.



Don Talbot, HM

Don and his wife, Claire, live in Cumberland where they raised three children. He serves as an usher and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at Holy Martyrs. Don also serves on the Budget and Investment sub-committees. He is a CPA by profession, and a member of our Knights of Columbus.



Jane Weiland, SJ

Jane and her husband, Bob, have four children, and have been POTHE parishioners at St Jude since 2014. Jane has worked in various finance and accounting roles for 35 years. Jane and Bob chaired the St. Jude Pancake Breakfast, which they are ready to do again! They live in Portsmouth, VA and Bustins Island, ME.



Tim Winkeler, HM

Tim and his wife, Tracy of 29 years, relocated from Oklahoma in 2010. He has served the parish as a Sacristan, reader, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and founder of POTHE's *That Man is You*. Tim is discerning a vocation to the permanent diaconate. Professionally, Tim is the CEO of VIP Tires & Service.