

Parish Council Monthly Bulletin Announcement

July 10, 2023

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council Mission: Connect the parish (laity, religious, and organizations), provide counsel and feedback to the Pastor, enhance communication across the parish, and ensure continuity of the various parish organizations and ministries.

Members: Tom Garrity – chair, Dan Ulicny – vice chair, Andrew Guman, Christine Lynch, Caitlin Shutte, and Paul Wirth

Updates:

- Successful Parish Festival. Over \$15,000 raised for the STM school. Thank you to everyone who attended and to all the volunteers who helped make this a successful event.
- More messages are being received by the Parish Council from parishioners. Keep them coming. We are here to serve you. See contact information below.

Questions/ideas submitted by Parishioners:

- More handicapped parking
- Adding a Grotto of Our Lady of Fatima, patron of the handicapped and infirm
- Return children's choir
- Monthly announcements in bulletin of recently deceased
- Improved bereavement process – continue to enhance our care of people preparing for a funeral and post-funeral bereavement

Some of the current initiatives of the Parish Council include:

- Forming a committee to develop a long-range strategic plan for the parish. This document will help guide allocation of resources, provide transparency to the parish, and give interested donors visibility into the use of financial gifts.
- Working with parish music director to enhance our programs and build continuity.
- Re-establishing the Parish weekend retreat during Lent
- Volunteer sign-ups for various parish organizations after mass during the month of September or October
- Working with Finance Committee for a monthly, high level financial report in the bulletin
- Continuing to build the parish database with email addresses and cell phone numbers in order to enhance communication. If you haven't registered your email and cell phone with the parish, please do so on the STM website: <https://stmchurchallentown.org> (click contact in top tool bar, then click 'parish email sign up').

The parish council is here to serve everyone in the parish and facilitate two-way communication between the parish and the Pastor. Please reach out to any of the council members with any suggestions, questions, or requests. You can reach me (Tom Garrity) directly at tgarrity@compasspt.com or 610-533-4652.

Yours in Christ, Tom

Tom Garrity, Parish Council Chair