

Candidate Profiles

Parish Pastoral Council Election – September 15 & 16



My name is **Alejandro (Alex) Ayala**. I am a husband, father of three beautiful children, and an active member of the parish, including being an Acolyte / Server at the 12:15 Sunday Mass and a Third Degree Knight of Columbus at Saint Patrick Basilica. I have a deep love of the Catholic Church, especially Saint Patrick Basilica Parish. I am a problem solver with an analytical mind who thinks outside the box. My focus is on finding solutions. As a parent of young children, I bring an important perspective to discussions on issues related to the future of the parish and the Church. I have excellent interpersonal skills and an ability to help bring about consensus. The Parish Pastoral Council's priorities should include continuing to make our parish 'family friendly', offering catechesis (faith development) classes that focus on teenagers and young adults, and continuing the tradition at our parish of making Mass and the Sacraments available to the faithful.



My name is **Angela Beare**. I have been a member of Saint Patrick Basilica for ten years, since I moved to Ottawa for university. My husband and I are now five years married and Saint Patrick Basilica continues to be our family parish. My first university degree was a Bachelor in Theology and Philosophy, having studied both at Our Lady Seat of Wisdom College in Barry's Bay and at the Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio. I have studied liturgy and liturgical music, which has probably led to my affinity for the beauty of Saint Patrick Basilica. I have served in four different dioceses as a musician for weekly Masses and other liturgical celebrations. I continue to do so, although not weekly anymore with children in tow. I can offer the Parish Pastoral Council the perspective and insights I have gained from my experience and my studies. Having grown up in New Brunswick, I lived for over twenty years in a parish with a strong community feel. It was the parish associated with my elementary school, and the place where my siblings and I received the

Sacraments. I appreciate that we the parishioners of Saint Patrick Basilica are from all corners of Ottawa. And although we sometimes struggle with establishing a "community feel", we are a community. The Parish Pastoral Council should prioritize identifying ways in which we can foster and strengthen that sense of community among our parishioners. Above all, I have a good listening ear. I am open to hearing the concerns and priorities of my fellow parishioners.



My name is **Philippe (Phil) Beauchamp**. I am a twenty-one year old who recently graduated from the University of Ottawa with an Honours BSc in Biomedical Science. This year I will be attending Dominican University College here in Ottawa with the intention of attending St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto the following year to begin studying to become a priest for the Archdiocese of Ottawa. Along with my parents, my sister and my three brothers, I have been attending this parish for several years. Two years ago, I was fortunate enough to have the experience to work as one of the custodians here at Saint Patrick Basilica for a period of one year. This allowed me the opportunity to get to meet so many of the great parishioners that I otherwise would not have had the chance to meet. In addition to my past work experience at Saint Patrick Basilica, I also continue to volunteer as an altar server for Sunday Masses and weekday Masses throughout the year. In the past I have occupied several leadership roles including student council positions and leadership courses which allowed me to work with others to achieve the best solutions for whatever issues were at hand. The pastoral council is aimed at helping the pastor to make decisions in a consultative manner. I believe that my past and present involvement in different

areas of this parish would help me to be a good evaluator and communicator of the effectiveness of current and future programs and services to the pastor.

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Taylor Hyatt has attended Saint Patrick Basilica since 2012. She grew up in Belleville, Ontario, and moved to Ottawa to attend university in 2011. In her tight-knit but non-religious family, Taylor was initially exposed to the Church and the Sacraments out of a sense of tradition. Her “personal conversion” at age thirteen was motivated by the Church’s teachings about the dignity of all people; she still has a great desire to welcome those whom society overlooks and disregards, help everyone around her to see their great worth and potential, and communicate the joy and fulfillment that life with Christ brings. Since moving to Ottawa, Taylor has found many places to put these principles into action. She has worked with a number of pro-life groups across the province, as well as two Members of Parliament. Taylor currently serves as Policy Analyst for the disability

rights group Not Dead Yet. Her experience with the ministries of Catholic Christian Outreach (student – 2011-2016) and *Duc in Altum* (retreat participant – 2016-17) have also taught her the importance of “little things done with great love.” A position on the Parish Pastoral Council would be another way for her to “do little things with great love” at a local level, serving the church which has given much to her over the past few years. If parish members entrust her with a position on the council, Taylor will approach her new role with a spirit of prayer, an open mind and heart, along with a sense of humour. She will strive to listen to and learn from the rector, council members, and fellow parishioners. Ultimately, Taylor hopes to help the council offer the best possible “advice and assistance” (Parish Pastoral Council Constitution, Saint Patrick Basilica) to the parish community she calls home.



Hello! I am **Christine Mathew**. I have been attending this parish for the past nine years. I have a background in the Health Sciences and Philosophy, and currently work at the Bruyère Research Institute. Saint Patrick Basilica is a second home for me. I believe the gift of faith I received as a child has enabled me to continuously learn anew how to love and serve God in whatever manner He demands of me. I have previously worked in the parish gift shop and book store, as well as the parish office. Currently, I am involved in the Adult Faith Formation program, as well as other sacramental preparation classes. I also generally tend to help out at parish social events when I am able to. In my short time serving the parish in varying capacities, I have gained some beautiful friendships, constantly edifying my faith, as they should be. St. John Paul II set out seven pastoral priorities at the start of the new millennium in *Novo Millennio Ineunte*: Holiness, Prayer, the Sunday Eucharist, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Primacy of Grace, Listening to the

Word, and Proclaiming the Word. I trust the wisdom of this apostolic letter and believe that the Parish Pastoral Council should consider the great duty of challenging parishioners to become saints, through holiness, in practical ways. While this may sound broad, I believe St. John Paul II saw that active/public ministry should be a consequence of, or overflow of grace from the Lord through daily personal prayer and reception of the Sacraments. Doing so will necessarily transform our parish to go outwards to draw and transform people to the Lord.