

Meet the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) 2024/2025



OFFICERS:

Chairperson – Kathryn Moery; Vice-Chairperson – John Riordan; Secretary – Matthew Lee-Own

Adam White is from Dayton, Ohio and moved to Chicago three years ago and began going to Assumption shortly after. He graduated from the University of Louisville with a BSBA in Accountancy and currently works for BDO USA as a Tax Accountant. When he isn't crunching numbers, he enjoys watching NFL games, cheering on Notre Dame football, playing golf, tennis, pickleball and spending time with his girlfriend Keit. He currently assists with Saturday sandwiches every month and goes to a majority of the social events throughout the year at the parish. Adam is extremely grateful and excited to be a part of the Parish Pastoral Council and looks forward to serving and meeting new people at Assumption.



Jola Oliver recently moved from the Chicago suburbs and became a parishioner at Assumption in March of this year. She was actively involved in her previous parish leading the Evangelization team and being part of the Pastoral Council, as well as leading scripture studies. Jola is a consumer insights director and strategic leader that uses data driven processes to bring insights to help organizations get closer to their customers. She loves to invite and engage parishioners to learn about Christ and develop a deep relationship with Him, and to share her joy with others. She is looking forward to being a part of the Parish Pastoral Council and to serve the lovely people at Assumption Church.



Matthew Lee Own has been a parishioner at Assumption for the past two years. He was born in a suburb of Atlanta and came to the city to study law at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law. After graduating, Matthew clerked for a justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court for two years before returning to Chicago to begin a career in private practice. He currently works as a litigation attorney focusing on complex commercial litigation and insurance coverage. Outside of the courtroom, he can be found enjoying the sights, sounds and atmosphere of downtown Chicago and is always eager to learn something new about the city. A resident of River North, he attends the Sunday 9am Mass serving as a Lector, Eucharistic Minister and Usher. He is honored to be part of the Parish Pastoral Council and looks forward to meeting the larger Assumption community and serving the needs of the Parish.



Mark Chapman is originally from Indianapolis, Indiana. He and his wife Catherine have been attending Assumption since they moved to Chicago in June of 2022. Their first child, Anthony, was baptized at Assumption this past April. When he's not spending time with his family, he loves cycling and competing in triathlons. He is excited to connect with fellow parishioners of Assumption and contribute to the parish as part of the council.



Luca Ripani enters his first year on the PPC after being a parishioner at Assumption since 2019. A lifelong resident of Chicagoland, Luca first moved to River North before attending the University of Notre Dame, graduating in 2023. After working in Washington, DC after graduation, Luca returned to Chicago in 2024 and now works for the City and loves to talk Chicago politics. Elsewhere around Assumption, Luca also teaches the OCIA youth classes for children. In his free time, he loves cheering on his beloved Fighting Irish, and on Saturdays he is a docent at the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture on the southwest side. Luca is looking forward to getting more involved in the Assumption community and connecting with parishioners from all walks of life.



Turn over for more!

Assumption Parish Pastoral Council (2024/2025)

Page 2



Michael Griffin and his wife Carole are long-time parishioners at Assumption, and were also married here at Assumption back in 2013. Michael is a tax attorney practicing in downtown Chicago. As he enters his third and final year on the Council, Michael looks forward to continuing his work serving our parish.



Kathryn Moery, a third year PPC member, looks forward to continuing the outreach to welcome new parishioners, and to expand that mission by inviting back couples who have married in our church, and families who have recently baptized their babies here. She also hopes to expand the lay ministry of Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers, and to reinvigorate parishioners to join in participating in other ways in our parish. She is a Eucharistic Minister, a participant in Deacon Kevin's Catechism 101, and also works with Chicago Help Initiative, leading a short story group. She and her husband, John, have been parishioners since 2014, and with their son, Steven, a resident of Misericordia Home, are devoted to the mission of Assumption Church.



Albert Ferolie is an attorney specializing in general civil litigation who has been a solo practitioner in the West Loop since 1994. Born in Rockford, he's a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and John Marshall Law School (now UIC Law). Albert began attending Assumption Church shortly after he and his family moved downtown from Sauganash in 2014. Al is a lector at the 9 o'clock mass and was previously a member of the Parish Pastoral Council from 2018 to 2021. He often volunteers to feed the homeless through the Chicago Help Initiative at Catholic Charities.



John Riordan is originally from the Chicago suburbs, but has always spent lots of time in the city. He has always enjoyed visiting different churches, and first came to Assumption for an evening Good Friday service. Several years later, he moved to the area, became a parishioner, and got married here. He enjoys the Assumption community, liturgies, thoughtful homilies, and beautiful music. He previously volunteered at several Theology On Tap locations, and was part of the cleanup crew at Assumption during the pandemic. He hopes to continue to contribute to the parish as part of the PPC.

