

Meet the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) 2023/2024



OFFICERS:

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

Adam White is from Dayton, Ohio and moved to Chicago two 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 with Assumption 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.



Katie Pomroy has attended Assumption Church since 2007. Katie enjoys attending Bible Study and Lenten/Advent Scripture groups through church. She has volunteered in different capacities with Chicago Help Initiative and most recently coordinates Assumption's dedication to supplying 100+ bag meals for the homeless each month. Katie is a Lector, attends 7:30 Mass and lives in West Town.



Matthew Lee Own has been a parishioner at Assumption for the past year. He was born in a suburb of Atlanta and came to the city to study law at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law. After graduating in 2019, 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.



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 second year on the Council, Michael looks forward to continuing his work serving our parish.



Ray Hufnagel and his wife, Terry, moved to Chicago about 30 years ago and have been associated with Assumption since 2004. Assumption proved to be a good fit due to its friendly & welcoming small parish feeling, much like their previous parish in Oklahoma. Their five children are currently raising grandchildren (ten) at various locations of the country. Ray's life changed on Christmas Day in 2021 when Terry died from ALS. The people & clergy of Assumption have been very helpful and supportive; a good characteristic of this parish. Ray regularly attends the Saturday 5pm Mass helping as an usher. He can occasionally be seen at Daily Mass as well. He welcomes the opportunity to participate in the PPC and hopes to have a positive effect on various operation & activities. Ray is currently unretired.





Tony Ribaud and his family have lived in Assumption Parish for more than 20 years, and he regularly attends the daily 7 am Mass. Tony grew up on “The Hill” in St. Louis (Yogi Berra’s neighborhood), where he served as an altar boy at Saint Ambrose Church. He attended St. Louis University High School, a Jesuit school, and graduated from Harvard College, where he played varsity soccer. More importantly, he met his future wife, Rebecca, on the first day of classes. He received his law degree from the University of Chicago, and is a partner at the law firm of Sidley & Austin. Tony and Rebecca have two daughters currently attending college: Stella (U.S. Naval Academy) and Ava (Harvard). Our Christian faith is a serious matter to our family, particularly given that Rebecca’s family survived the Armenian Genocide. Tony, Rebecca, and their daughters look forward to getting to know more of you in the coming years.



Kathryn Moery, a second 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.



Jorge Otero has been active at Assumption for two years, becoming a council member last year. He is a physician in training who cares for those who are deeply in need of help in the community. Driven by his love for planting flowers and caring for nature, Jorge worked with the Garden Club this summer. Laudato Si’ inspires him to care for creation and to help the community develop a healthy, natural environment downtown. He desires to grow and build community around love, health and sustainable habits so that our community can continue to flourish now and in the future. Jorge is a volunteer at Chicago Help Initiative in the social services department where he helps people in need gain access to housing resources, food, and medical care.



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.

