

Niqui Beckrum

St Francis of Assisi is, without a doubt, the finest church I have ever attended. I love it and the people who make up the congregation. My hope in serving on the Pastoral Council is to express Christ's love through acts of service to the church and its body, and to do what I can to continue to make it a warm and welcoming place for everyone. Being a part of the St Francis community has been life-changing for me, and I want to share that experience with others whenever and however I can. I'm very passionate about our faith, and love interacting with others in sharing God's love for us all. The opportunity to serve in a role that emphasizes assistance to the leadership in continuing to make St Francis the best that it can be is very exciting, and I'm looking forward to serving!

Rachel Beebe

After my confirmation in 2021, visiting *St. Francis of Assisi* in 2022 and sensing an overwhelming warmth and welcome, I have recently joined the community! I am excited to be included in the Pastoral Council as I am passionate about the spiritual care of our parishioners and supporting Fr. Fritz in his role as our Pastor. After years in non-profit and international work, I now work at the Columbus City Schools Spanish bilingual school and have recently dedicated my summers to international mission work with the Salesians in Vietnam and Guatemala. Here at *SFA*, I participate in teaching Catechism, 6 PM Friday daily Mass and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Outside of our parish, I participate in KAIROS prison ministry, Catholic Book Clubs and Young Catholic Professionals. I look forward to serving our parish.

Tina Butler

For much of my adult life I worked in Catholic education at the elementary, secondary and college levels, culminating in 17 years teaching at Ohio Dominican University. Always attracted to Dominican spirituality, I became a lay associate of the Dominican Sisters of Peace in 2003 and, a few years later, began a 7-year tenure serving the Congregation as director of the Martin de Porres Center. At the same time, as a parishioner of St. Thomas the Apostle Church, I led a team of Eucharistic ministers at Kensington Place Retirement Community and the adjacent nursing home. Since joining St. Francis of Assisi Parish, I have enjoyed serving as a lector and volunteering at various parish activities. I now feel ready to commit my talents as listener, observer, planner and leader to help Pastoral Council achieve its mission and purpose on behalf of our entire community.

Doug Cluxton

After retiring in 2017 as a counselor in hospice care supporting patients and their families, I began exploring new ventures and activities. This resulted in my volunteering with the Dominican Learning Center teaching English to immigrants. My desire to join a local parish led me to St. Francis of Assisi, a vibrant, diverse and welcoming community that offers many opportunities to get involved. I currently assist with Masses as a lector and Eucharistic Minister and participate in our St. Vincent de Paul Society. Serving on the Pastoral Council with the other members will offer support to our pastor and to other ministries here, as together we strive to build up the body of Christ in our parish and beyond.

Steve Colahan

Serving on the Pastoral Council contributes meaningfully to the spiritual and communal well-being of our St Francis of Assisi community. As a council member, I will actively participate in shaping the direction of our parish, working collaboratively with fellow members and clergy to address the evolving needs of our congregation. This role provides me with a unique opportunity to engage in thoughtful reflection on matters of faith and to foster a sense of unity within the parish that impacts the spiritual journey of our community members. Through my service on the Pastoral Council, I am dedicated to creating an inclusive and supportive environment that nurtures growth and allows our faith community to flourish.

Richard Hicks

A senior retiree, I relocated from Dayton to Columbus, and live at nearby Ohio Living Westminster-Thurber community. I first registered with our SFA Parish in February 2023. My Dayton experience includes participation in several Parish Councils as Recorder and Chairperson, extensive experience with Parish and District St Vincent de Paul Conferences, and Board member experience with local pro-life Women's Centers in Southwestern Ohio. I believe that participation in the SFA Pastoral Council will provide opportunities to serve and to get to know a wider group of Columbus Catholics.

Joanna Nunn

My husband, John, and I came to St. Francis of Assisi 15 years ago and we both fell in love with this parish! He passed away in July of 2021. Currently, I'm a Eucharistic Minister and recently, became a greeter. The community of SFA is caring, diverse, and open to all. I felt a calling to join Pastoral Council to be a help to the pastor as we move forward implementing programs, etc. to carry out our mission statement. I feel blessed to serve the parish in these spiritual ministries.

Armando Prince

I have been a member of Saint Francis of Assisi Church since 2015. I really like the culture and the mission of the church. I wanted to become more involved especially with how diverse Saint Francis of Assisi has become. I would like to encourage others who make up the diversity to become involved with the parish and Pastoral Council.