

# SAINT ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH'S PARISH PROFILES

Published September 8, 2019

David Toews- Parish Council

Like so many other Saint Rose parishioners, David Toews, another new member of the Parish Council, was introduced to the parish through the school. When David and his wife Sarah started looking for educational opportunities for their children they were living in Northeast Minneapolis and attending Corpus Christi. "At the time we didn't know anything about Saint Rose," he says. "The school, although just down the street, was never on our radar." It is now, and so is the parish.

Two of the Toews' children (Alice, Gus) attend Saint Rose School (daughter Paige is in high school). "We have been so extraordinarily impressed with the engagement of the faculty and staff," says David. "The teachers are very proactive in communicating with parents. We don't have to go in and search to find out what is happening with our kids. That they be given the opportunity to grow in their faith is very important to us. It's happening at Saint Rose."

Like other Saint Rose parishioners, Toews family members participate in some Corpus Christi ministries (Liturgical dance, Give and Grin, lector). David understands the uniqueness of the two parishes and wants them to maintain their own personalities while collaborating when the right opportunity arises (fish fry, Habitat for Humanity).

"I want to help the two parishes find good ways to work together, emphasizing each other's strength, with an eye on growth and outreach," he says.



## David's approach to being on the Parish Council:

- Listen and absorb. "With my family and at work (database administrator) I am never the first person to offer an idea," says David. "I like to gauge where everyone is and approach them on that level rather than coming in believing I have all the answers."
- Get out of his comfort zone. "I need to make an effort to engage with parishioners to figure out what they are concerned about and open to. I've been given this wonderful opportunity and I have to make the most of it."