



SAINT MARY SCHOOL  
HYDE PARK

## Better Together

### *Parent leadership groups at St. Mary Hyde Park*

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

Pastoral Council

Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

St. Mary Athletic Commission

St. Mary Finance Commission

#### **Parent Teacher Organization**

The St. Mary Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is a group of parents dedicated to providing social and spiritual opportunities for our community while also supporting the St. Mary Parish. Our main purpose is to help parents connect with St. Mary and build a strong community through activities for students, the school, and families. We support teachers and staff to build a culture of belonging, boost morale, and ensure they have what they need to foster a successful learning environment.

Our Board is a hands-on service group, made up of ten volunteers with varied talents and commitment levels based on their roles.

Contact a PTO Board member with questions on:

- Volunteer and leadership opportunities
- Fundraising ideas
- Supporting students and faculty

Board members include Jennifer Reed, Rachael Palermo, Elaine Vonderhaar, Nicole Byerly Ryan Butt, Trisha Cole, Emily Jackson, Molly Painter, Kathryn Balnes and Maggie Schapman.

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#### **Pastoral Council**

Beacons of Light combined St. Cecilia, St. Mary & The Oratory of St. John Vianney officially in 2022. The merger necessitated developing a diverse group to bridge the entities and work for the well-being of the family as whole. Thus, the Eastside Family Pastoral Council was established. It is an advisory and consultative in nature for the pastor. We are volunteer members of the three churches of St. Mary, St. Cecilia and the Oratory. The Pastoral Council addresses the family and schools' needs of the present and the future. Here are examples of some items on which we have worked (non-exhaustive):

- 1) Archdiocesan Committee for Sacred Art and Architecture alignment for beautifying our churches
- 2) Strengths and weakness survey and analysis
- 3) Ed Choice Expansion consultation with Finance Council
- 4) Murray Ave Property staying in the family
- 5) Support Blue Ribbon, Regina Rose, Vocations Day
- 6) Establishing a school Mission Statement and Parent Advisory Council
- 7) St John Vianney Oratory restoration and beautification
- 8) Beacons of Light transition issues
- 9) New staff and/or vocations

## 10) Capital Improvements

Please reach out to us with any parish wide questions or concerns. We wish everyone a wonderful school year, and may God bless and be with you always.

Here are our St. Mary members: Marge Garcia, Chris Bergman, Tom Arnold, Lisa Comello, Ruth Kelly (chair), Tom Lieser, Sr.

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### **Parent Advisory Committee**

The Parent Advisory Board (PAC) is made up of the Principal, Vice Principal, Priest, and 8 - 10 parents. The objective of the PAC is to preserve the strengths of the school, identify and target its weaknesses, and ensure continuity of priorities set forth in the school mission statement at all times. The PAC is advisory in nature and works on long range planning and policy development. The Committee brings parental concerns to the pastor and the school administration with a goal of supporting and promoting the community and maintaining clear communications.

The Committee meets once a month with the exception of July and December.

The current parent members are: Beth Berkowitz, Steve Bennett, Molly Bruegge, Kara Farnham, Abigail Isbell, Tom Lieser, Jr., Mike McCafferty, Maggie Wuellner

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### **St. Mary Athletic Commission**

St. Mary Athletic Commission (SMAC) is focused on sponsoring, coordinating, and operating athletic activities for the students of St. Mary School and parish families. SMAC provides opportunities for the youth participants to learn the rules and fundamentals of each sport, the tenets of good sportsmanship, the discipline of hard work, the benefits of physical fitness, and the enjoyment of team work under proper supervision and guidance. SMAC offers sports for pre-school age children through 8<sup>th</sup> graders and these opportunities occur throughout the school year and are divided into Fall, Winter, and Spring seasons.

The SMAC board members are: Chris Palermo, John Mussman, Ken Coyne, Sarah LaBarge, Phil Hurak, Jeff Schmutte, John Srofe, Bret Desmond, Laura Dwyer, Justin Haines, Dan Lessing, Matt Glacken, Tom Schaults, Suzy Manning, Kristen St. Clair, Ross Taylor, Chris Cianciolo, Vince Ward, Erin Heekin, Sarah Irely, Ryan Heller, Ryan Spalazzi, Kevin McDonald, Kari Dunki-Jacobs, Linsey Knueven, Shaun Keegan, and Matt Dektas.

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### **St Mary Finance Committee**

The St Mary Finance Committee ensures that sound financial strategies and practices are incorporated in the planning, management, and reporting of the finances of the Saint Mary, Hyde Park Parish including the church, school and other parish organizations and the operating and maintenance of the church and school facilities and other assets. The committee advises the pastor on the financial implications of policy and operational decisions, assists in the preparation of annual budgets, and supports long-range financial planning. It also reviews and approves budgets, plans, and significant expenditures, and reviews regular financial reports and recommendations with the pastor and parish Business Manager.

The current committee members include: Tom Bosco, Lisa Habel, Phil Hurak, Abigail Isbell, Linda Klump, Katherine Mulligan, Art Thompson, Trisha Cole and Chris Zimmer.