



St. Malachi Parish

PARISH COLLABORATION



St. Patrick Parish

Easter Sunday 2024 Update

What has happened so far?

Beginning in March 2022, St. Malachi Parish began a Strategic Planning initiative to research options for a sustainable future due to aging membership and buildings as well as concern for financial viability and offers to purchase pieces of the parish property. After a year of prayerful planning, meeting, research and discernment, St. Malachi Parish presented Bishop Malesic with 2 suggested options for their future. The bishop's response was that St. Malachi Parish would become an oratory (a place of prayer and mission) under the pastoral and administrative care of St. Patrick Parish.

Fall 2023 - Listening sessions and surveys held for both parishes were key in gathering parishioner feedback, insight, and feelings regarding this collaboration.

November 2023 – Collaborative Steering Committee (CSC) of members from St. Patrick and St. Malachi was formed to guide the transition process for what future collaboration would look like.

January 2024 – Visioning Retreat for Steering Committee

February 2024 – Joint Town Hall Presentation to all parishioners

March 2024 – Work Groups (WG) launched with members of both parishes along with parish staff and Steering Committee liaisons on the topics of:

- Communication
- Staffing and Administration
- Parish Council
- Finances and Budget
- Liturgy and Worship
- Physical Plant & Facilities
- Faith Formation & Spiritual Life
- Ministries of Charity

Work Groups were given observations and questions with the direction to research current realities at each parish for their specific areas of concern. Their goal is to form short- and long-term recommendations and suggestions to Fr. Gurnick regarding the coming together of the two parishes.

What's next?

- **May 11**-Mid-Point Draft Check In – Work Groups will present progress to each other for guidance and identification of overlap and consistency. Meeting will be at St. Pat's.
- **June 8 & 9** - Listening Session at each parish. Parishioners may attend either session.
- **June 29** - FINAL WG Recommendations - CSC, WG members, & Staff attend. Location TBD.
- **July 2024** - Presentation/discussion with Parish Councils/Finance Councils before sending recommendations to the bishop. The overall aim will be to have Bishop Malesic receive our recommendations in July/August 2024. We could expect an official Decree in the fall of 2024. These last dates are approximations, we'll adjust as needed.

Please keep this process and the team members in your prayers and send all questions/comments to:

parishcollaboration44113@gmail.com

What is an oratory?	Code of Cannon Law Re: Oratories and Private Chapels
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An oratory is distinct from a parish church or cathedral. • It is set aside by the bishop for prayer and celebration of Mass. • The term “oratory” comes from the Latin verb “orare,” which means “to pray.” • Permission from the local bishop or ordinary is required to establish an oratory. • Oratories may be established for specific religious communities, lay associations, or a specific mission. • It is led by a competent superior who is designated by the bishop and could be a priest, religious, or lay person. • Responsibilities may include ensuring proper worship, maintaining the oratory, and making decisions related to its functioning. • The specific leadership structure may vary depending on the context and purpose of the oratory. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can. 1223 By the term oratory is understood a place for divine worship designated by permission of the ordinary for the benefit of some community or group of the faithful who gather in it and to which other members of the faithful can also come with the consent of the competent superior. • Can. 1224 §1. The ordinary is not to grant the permission required to establish an oratory unless he has first visited the place destined for the oratory personally or through another and has found it properly prepared. • §2. After permission has been given, however, an oratory cannot be converted to profane use without the authority of the same ordinary. • Can. 1225 All sacred celebrations can be performed in legitimately established oratories except those which the law or a prescript of the local ordinary excludes or the liturgical norms prohibit. • Can. 1227 Bishops can establish a private chapel for themselves which possesses the same rights as an oratory. • Can. 1228 Without prejudice to the prescript of can. 1227, the permission of the local ordinary is required for Mass or other sacred celebrations to take place in any private chapel. • Can. 1229 It is fitting for oratories and private chapels to be blessed according to the rite prescribed in the liturgical books. They must, however, be reserved for divine worship alone and free from all domestic uses.

At the Visioning Retreat the Collaboration Steering Committee formulated the following Organizational Strategic Alignment Values to guide the collaboration of St. Malachi & St. Patrick:

Core Purpose	<i>Noble reason why we do what we do</i>
To live and inspire discipleship in Christ’s love	
Vision	<i>Who we want to be in the future; ideal picture; time certain</i>
We are vibrant Catholic communities, unique and united, passionately committed to urban parish renewal.	
Mission	<i>Who we are and what we do</i>
We are Catholic Communities, rooted in the Eucharist, inspired by the Holy Spirit to be the heart and hands of Christ.	
Values	<i>How we need to behave to get to our Vision and Mission; how we want to behave and what we want to be known for; what we stand for in good and in challenging times</i>
Revitalizing our Church, Renewing our Faith Welcoming All, Respecting All, Serving All	
Strategic Direction	<i>High level focus for the next 5 years</i>
Internal Transformation to create a vibrant and sustainable Church	
Strategic Goals	<i>How we get to our Vision; high level strategy encompassing multiple years.</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a Vibrant Church through renewed Liturgical and Sacramental Life, Education and Faith Formation, Parishioner Engagement and Ministries of Charity 2. Create a Sustainable Church by strengthening financials, facilities, communication, leadership, and staffing. 	