

# Frequently Asked Questions

*St. Patrick Parish with St. Malachi Oratory - June 2025*

## **What is the name of our new parish collaborative?**

While technically all of us are parishioners of St. Patrick Parish, we will have stationary reflecting our new relationship: St. Patrick Parish with St. Malachi Oratory.

## **What will look different July 1?**

- One Parish Logo which captures the richness of both St. Patrick and St. Malachi
- One Common Sunday Bulletin
- One Weekly Email Update sent to both current parish rosters
- One new website, which is under construction with the hopeful debut in Fall 2025 (we will be using the two current sites for the time being)

## **How do I contact the parish offices?**

We are excited to announce that we will now have a full-time Parish Secretary who will be available Monday – Friday during our business hours (9am-4:30pm). The current phone numbers for St. Patrick and St. Malachi will be routed to the secretary who can forward calls to any staff member on either campus.

While the main parish offices are now located at the St. Patrick campus, the St. Malachi Oratory office remains staffed Monday – Friday from 10am – 3pm.

All Staff and Parish Leadership email addresses will remain the same for the time being.

## **Will Mass Times change?**

Yes. Due to the recent news that Fr. Phil Bernier, OFM Cap., concludes his assignment at St. Malachi, we will have one less priest to celebrate weekend liturgies. Other additional factors, such as attendance, stewardship of resources, and appropriate spacing of start times need to be considered. Feedback from the recent parish survey provided helpful information as we finalize the new schedule which could go into effect as early as the weekend of July 5-6. We will be consulting with joint Parish Councils and those who coordinate liturgical ministries prior to making a final decision.

## **When will the new joint Parish Council, Finance Council, and Commissions go into effect?**

Our new councils will officially go into effect 1 July 2025. The Parish Council will have 10 members, five from St. Patrick and five from St. Malachi. Five members from the current St. Malachi council and two members from the current St. Patrick council will be moving into the new joint Parish Council. We also have a new member being added to St. Patrick and currently are looking for two additional members to represent St. Pat's.

The Finance Council will retain present members, with the departure of one St. Malachi member. This new council will go into effect 1 July 2025.

Our goal is to have a Chairperson appointed to each of the six new Commissions, also by 1 July 2025. Please refer to the attached chart to see how current ministries are organized under the new commissions. Please note that all existing committees will be assigned to a commission as we look forward to continued conversation with the leaders of these particular groups.

### **How will the finances for St. Patrick and St. Malachi be handled at this point?**

For the new fiscal year (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026), all bank accounts and other investments will remain separated but overseen by our new joint Finance Council. One of the first tasks of the new council will be to work with any group or organization responsible for funds which have been designated as “restricted.” A *Memorandum of Understanding* will be composed for each of these restricted funds by 31 December 2025.

### **Regarding my Sunday Offering, how do I make sure my donation is going to St. Patrick or St. Malachi?**

Through the use of parish envelopes, any donation will make its way to the parish or the oratory regardless of which Mass one attends. In other words, if an envelope belongs to St. Malachi, it will go toward St. Malachi. The same holds true for St. Patrick. Parishioners are also encouraged to use Faith Direct, the electronic means for making regular donations to either place. This will remain unchanged for the next year.

As far as cash collected in the collection basket, that money will be assigned to the location at which it was collected.

### **Will another Parochial Vicar be assigned to St. Patrick and St. Malachi?**

Due to the demands placed upon the diocese, it is not likely that another Parochial Vicar will be assigned. Therefore, we will need to rely on the kind availability of Fr. Hollis (retired) and Fr. Dan Reim, SJ, (from St. Ignatius HS). While we're grateful for both of them, their availability is a gift but we need to schedule all parish activities with one priest actually assigned to this parish.