

**This is Listening Weekend - We Want to Hear from You!
From Parish Council Co-Chairs Kathy Goldenstein & Maggie Lee**

The parish council meeting this month is August 28, which makes this Listening Weekend. After each Mass on Saturday and Sunday, a council member is available to receive your comments and questions about parish life. These get shared with the rest of the council at the upcoming meeting. Listening Weekend is a good way for the parish council to find out what's on the minds of parishioners.

We received a lot of comments and questions last month – THANK YOU! We're still working on getting answers for some inquires, but below are a few things we can share with you now.

Question: Does St. Matthew's have a plan for engaging and expanding its youth community?

Youth outreach and ministry was one of the three pastoral priorities identified by St. Matthew parishioners during the Archdiocesan Synod. This is an important issue and a frequent topic of discussion at parish council meetings. Numerous ideas are under discussion. The most concrete action so far is the decision to partner with St. Stanislaw to share a youth minister. While neither parish could afford to hire a youth minister on their own, together we can support a 30-hour per week position. A committee is currently interviewing candidates. Watch for updates in the near future.

Comment: We need a baby-changing station in the ADA bathroom located in the social hall.

A parishioner has donated a baby changing station for the ADA bathroom. The ADA bathroom is a large, family-friendly bathroom located across the hall from the Men's and Women's restrooms in the social hall. Thanks to generous donors, this problem is solved!

Update on Blessed Virgin statue

In response to a recent inquiry about making Mary more prominent, the statues of Mary and Joseph will be switched. We also discovered that a light intended to shine on the statues had been turned off back when Masses were being videotaped. Now the light is on and brightening the space. The Liturgy Committee still plans to take up this topic, but we wanted to share these small changes.

Coming Soon...A Listening Box

Did you ever have a question or thought you wanted to share but it wasn't Listening Weekend? Or maybe you have a comment that you'd be more comfortable writing down and submitting anonymously. We are in the process of installing a Listening Box where parishioners will be able to submit written comments, questions and suggestion for the Parish Council to review. Watch for more details in the coming weeks.