Qualifications for Lay Parish Leadership
St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish
Revised 9/19/2017

Ministry groups within the parish (activities, organizations, etc.) are a vital element of the community's life. They are both internal parts of the Body of Christ that is our parish, and extensions of our parish's presence in the local community.

Leadership in our parish and our many ministries is vital to their success and our parish's mission. Some ministries are led by clergy and professional lay staff. Other ministries are led by parishioners who are discerned by the community, prepared for their role, and supported by the parish clergy and staff. Councils and commissions exercise leadership in serving as the "eyes and ears" of our community and offering advice to the pastor and pastoral team.

All who exercise leadership in ministry represent St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in particular, and the Catholic Church more broadly. It is expected that leaders within our parish community are active and engaged participants in parish life, and also are faithful to the teachings of the Church.

Normally, leaders are fully-initiated Catholic Christians, registered members of the parish. In some cases, exceptions may be made for non-parishioners or non-Catholics at the discretion of the appropriate pastoral associate, and ultimately the pastor.

All who represent St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in any leadership capacity should have knowledge of the Catholic faith and not publicly oppose the teachings of the Catholic faith nor publicly advocate for any position in conflict with Catholic teaching, or the specific positions of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati or the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. This requirement includes any public speech, demonstration or writing, including the use of social media or other digital technologies.

Those lay parish leaders who fail to uphold the teachings of the Church – both in the direct exercise of their ministry and in other public expressions – may be removed from their leadership position.