



Meet New Parish Council Members

In recent elections at St. Patrick's Catholic Church Pete Larson, Marty Maffi and Julie Richards were chosen to serve two-year terms on the parish council. They fill the positions of previous members whose terms had expired.



Married to his wife, Linda, for 52 years, **Pete Larson** is currently retired and keeps himself busy with

household chores and maintenance. He also enjoys working in his woodshop, exercising by walking his dog, Brody, and fishing in Lake Lahontan during the spring and summer months.

The Larsons came to Fallon from California in 1989 for the purpose of opening a business and settled on Sunway Sandwiches which they operated for 15 years. They have two children. Son Thad lives with his family in Sierra Vista, AZ, where he serves in the U.S. Army and daughter Michelle, retired from the U.S. Navy, and her family reside in Katy, TX. Pete and Linda also have four grandchildren whom they "jump at every chance to spoil" as much as they can.

Pete feels that "serving on the parish council is where God wants me right now." He plans to serve "very gratefully in any path He leads me."



Born at St. Mary's in Reno, **Marty Maffi** is a true Fallonite. He was married to his late wife, Linda, for 31 years before she passed away six years ago. They raised two chil-

dren—one boy and one girl—both of whom make their homes here in *The Oasis of Nevada*.

After being employed as an electrician at Kennametal for almost 40 years, Marty retired from the company in September of 2009. Now he does "a little bit of everything" including taking care of his mom and dad, enjoying coffee and conversation at the Churchill County Senior Center, and playing golf.

Marty has been an active member of St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus since 1985.

Although he is still unsure of what his specific role on the parish council will be, Marty welcomes parishioner input and intends to "let people in the parish know what's going on"



Also a native of Fallon **Julie Richards** is the daughter of Norine and Ed Arciniega. Except for a brief

10-month period of her life, she has always called Fallon "home sweet home."

In her 23rd year with the Churchill County School District, Julie is currently office manager at E.C. best Elementary School. She has two daughters (and sons-in-law) - Jenny and Tim Mitchell and Becky and Gerry Rossback—and two grandchildren—Berry Mitchell, 5 years old, and Brooke Mitchell, 2 1/2 years old.

"Being born and raised here, St. Patrick's has always been a part of my life," Julie said. "I feel so honored to be a member of the parish council. I look forward to representing you and being your voice in the ministries at St. Patrick's Church."



The Pastor's Corner

The year 2012 would probably be remembered by people in different ways because of the storm Sandy, the hurricanes and floods suffered by many around the world, the shooting of innocent persons in Connecticut, the fiscal cliff, etc. Amidst all these events, and with grateful hearts, we thank the Lord for the year 2012 despite its lights and shadows.

I would like to thank those who already submitted their pledges for our capital campaign. Our parish is blessed with many dedicated individuals who worked hard for two years in order to prepare us for this building project. I really appreciate your encouragement, kindness, commitment and generosity.

In a few days we are going to put up a "thermometer" on the wall in order to help us see where we are in our fundraising. One thing is certain: we need everybody's prayers and support.

As we begin this new year we are once again invited to keep our focus—to keep our eyes on the goal, as St. Paul says. To quote Cardinal Suenens, "Happy are those who dream dreams and are willing to pay the price to make them come true."

A grace-filled new year to everyone!

Father Antonio Quijano

Parish Council Officers Chosen

At the January 8th parish council meeting members voted for officers. The following are the results: President— Phil Sabatino; Vice President— Pete Larson; Secretary—Julie Richards; and Outreach— Danette Laca

Phil is serving a one-year appointment to the parish council. Other members are Marty Maffi, Dennis Mills, and, representing the Hispanic community, Martin Landaverde.

Parish council members whose terms of office had expired and who were replaced by Pete Larson, Marty Maffi and Julie Richards in recent elections are Alicia Centeno, Ron Flores, Dale Groves, Pat Heck and Paul Nelson. Thank you to the outgoing members and congratulations to the incoming members and new officers. The parish council meets the last Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. in the Rose Room. The next meeting is January 29. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Phil Sabatino
President

Pete Larson
Vice President

Julie Richards
Secretary

Martin Landaverde
Danette Laca
Marty Maffi
Dennis Mills

YOUR PARISH PASTOR

Father Tony Quijano

YOUR PARISH DEACONS

Kurt Carlson, M.D.
Ron Cherry
Wayne Crooks

YOUR PARISH STAFF

JoAnn Luiz
Office Manager

Desiree Washington
Secretary

MaryAnn Gomes
Volunteer Office Assistant

Judy Carlson
Volunteer General Assistant

Casey Carlson
Custodian



One view of Maiola Hall when it was filled with generous Christmas donations from parishioners of gifts and non-perishable food items to be distributed to 88 families. Photo: Phil and Colleen Sabatino.

Organ Repair Extraordinaire

The pipe organ located in St. Patrick's choir loft is three-fourths of a century old. According to Robert Miller, who has maintained and repaired it since it was brought to the church in 1982, it looks and sounds almost exactly like it did 30 years ago. In fact, Robert was the one who found it for Father Larry Quilici, St. Patrick's pastor at the time, and Tina Grainer, then the church's cantor—organist, who decided they wanted one at the parish. Today it is the only pipe organ in active use in Fallon.

Born in Reno and raised in Fallon since 2nd grade, Robert said he has loved organs "ever since I was a kid." Graduating from Churchill County High School in 1974, he saved money so he could train under the tutelage of organ experts in Pennsylvania where he stayed for 8 years—learning and working.

Built in 1937 the pipe organ was purchased for about \$10,000. Robert learned of its availability "through the grapevine," took it apart, trucked it himself from the east coast to Fallon, and spent three days putting it back together at St. Patrick's Church. Since then he has been servicing the organ with "tender loving care." His business, Miller Organ Company, is based in Virginia City where he now lives. "I never plan on retiring," he said.

**Letter of Thanks**

Dear St. Patrick's Family.

We gave food baskets, a ham or turkey, and gifts to 88 families. This year we made a few changes that helped to make things smoother. We hung small bags—containing tags for each person in the family—on the Angel Tree and asked parishioners to pick a family to adopt. We also handed out grocery bags with a list of food items to purchase. These changes ensured that all children in a family received equal gifts and that we had all food items we needed for our families. Last year we had around 50 families; this year we had a 60 percent increase in the number of families (gifting and feeding about 410 people).

We want to thank...

- Our youth group for putting together the food baskets.
- Those who helped with signing up families—Rita Butori, Maria Keener, Sadie Munoz and Lilian Vick.
- Those who helped with organizing the gifts and doing last minute shopping and gift wrapping—Missy McCormick, Barbara and Madison Murray, and Linda Tews.
- Those who helped hand out the gifts and food—Judy Carlson, Sadie Munoz, Barbara and Madison Murray, Linda Tews, Lilian Vick and our husbands Paul Nelson and Phil Sabatino.
- Judy Northrup for setting up the Angel Tree and making the angel tags.
- You, our parish family, for your continued generosity.

God has blessed so many through your kindness.

—Bernadette Nelson & Colleen Sabatino

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday this year is February 13th. Masses for that day have been set as follows:

10 a.m.—English
6 p.m.—English
7:30 p.m.—Spanish

Please mark your calendars.

Holy Week services (March 24-29) and the Easter Mass schedule (March 30-31) will be published in the Feb. newsletter.

