

## MICHAEL BARBIERI



**Most important issue facing St Andrew Parish:** After completing my one year term on the Pastoral Council I have a new insight into our challenges. I think communication of all the opportunities available to our Parishioners is high on the list. I had known of some of the ministries; however I was unaware of all the aspects of faith and the needs of the community that are being met by Saint Andrew. My own Faith has grown as I have become more involved with the various ministries. We get so much more than we give. We need to share this message with all our Parishioners so they may also expand the boundaries of their faith. We need to communicate and ask for peoples' help in the growth of the Parish. We need to become more welcoming to those disengaged with the Church. Lastly we need to meet the needs of our youth and young adults by supporting the Youth Ministry.

**Most significant positive about St Andrew Parish and why:** Saint Andrew Parish's greatest strength has always been it people; the Priests, Staff, Lay ministers and our parishioners. The diversity of our Parish contributes to this strength by having different perspectives and points of view represented within the Church. This allows us to be inclusive to all. Our Church meets our faith needs during the Liturgy as well as our emotional and physical needs through the various ministries. This outreach is how the Catholic Church represents what our Father asks us to do. It is the Holy Spirit alive all around us. Saint Andrew's is continuously growing and striving to meet what our Father expects of us by loving and caring for each other.

**What gifts would you bring to the Pastoral Council:** My one year term on the Pastoral Council was interrupted by my receiving a kidney transplant in September of last year. This was such a blessing in my life but this precluded me from participating in the council for around two months. I feel I am just adding value to Father Tom and the other members of the council. I have a true understanding of what the council is chartered to do. I am generally for term limits however I feel it is some unfinished business. I have a good ability to lead as well as be a member of a team chartered to find practical solutions to complex problems. I am able to find consensus among different individuals and to understand different points of view. I have taken and instructed courses on communication.

**Optional Information:** I am a widower with three children, two sons in college age 21 and 19 and a daughter who is 15. I am a lifelong Catholic and I attended Catholic schools. I have been a member of St. Andrew's since my wife and I moved to Fort Worth in 1988. All my children were born here and all baptized at St. Andrew's and are products of the great religious education program. I taught Baptism preparation class for 15 years ending in 2005. I am currently volunteering at Social Ministries as well as the Pastoral Council. I am an Engineering Manager employed at Lockheed Martin. I enjoy spending time with friends my family.