**Mary Ashby**

Originally from Waynesboro, VA, my family and I have lived in Hanover County for over twenty-four years. My husband, Rob, our two children, Alexandra and Austin, and I have been members of Church of the Redeemer for twenty years. I am excited to be a candidate for Pastoral Council.

I own a financial planning firm in Hanover County. When my children were younger, I coached little league basketball and volunteered with Hanover High Athletic Boosters. I have been active in the Network of Enterprising Women, a networking organization with a cause (raising scholarship funds for graduating high school women). I’ve served on the board as Membership Chair, Vice President, President and Past President and chaired special event committees.

Within the Redeemer community I have been active in the following small groups/ministries:

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| • *Eucharistic Minister* | * *Pastoral Council (2011-2014)* |
| • *Catechist including Confirmation Team Leader and Sponsor* | * *Pastoral Council Liaison to the Finance Committee* |
| • *Adult Faith Formation Committee Member* | * *Catholic Daughters of the Americas* |
| • *Book Club Co-coordinator* | * *CDA Chili Committee Co-chair* |

I have been active as a participant and prayer leader with an Ecumenical Women’s Prayer Group.

The last two years have been very challenging for Church of the Redeemer and the universal church as a whole. I am saddened by the slow return to participation in Mass especially young families. My daughter, son-in-law and four grandchildren attend Church of the Redeemer and I want to see a return to the vibrant multi-generational church attendance that Redeemer experienced two and a half years ago.

I have been involved in many aspects of parish life from children, youth, and adult faith formation. I have also served in many volunteer capacities for Redeemer fund raising events. My listening skills and non-judgmental approach will be assets I’d bring to Pastoral Council.

**Cathy Durvin**

Hi, my name is Cathy Durvin, and I am humbled and honored to be given the opportunity to offer as a candidate for The Church of the Redeemer Parish Council. I have been a member of the Church of Redeemer over 40 years. My husband, Hunter and I raised our two daughters within the parish and over the years have participated in many of the parish programs and activities.

I was an educator for Henrico County Public Schools for over 40 years, retiring in July 2021. Working in the schools provided me an opportunity to help students toward graduation and future planning goals. I continue to serve the schools and hope to begin a new opportunity in 2023 which will keep me involved with the education of young people in our community. Over the years I served as a Girl Scout Leader, a District Girl School Cookie Chairman, Hermitage High Football Ticket Manager, St Jude Walk captain, and Longest Day Coordinator. I am an active member of Alpha Delta Kappa, a fraternal organization that provides excellence in education and altruistic opportunities. I have been the Virginia Treasurer for the last four years, served as the District and Chapter President and held many other offices over my 20 years of membership. The leadership roles I have held will provide me with skills needed to serve our church.

At Redeemer, I have been active in the following groups/ministries:

*Eucharistic Ministry No Room at the Inn*

*Lector Youth Religious Education*

*Morning Prayer Group Meals for Sick and Shut Ins*

As a member of Pastoral Council, I would use my leadership and organizational skills to help our church strive toward it goals of serving the community and making Redeemer and inclusive community that welcomes all Catholics. I have been actively involved with diversity and inclusion programs both in Alpha Delta Kappa and the schools. I value our church’s commitment to serving the whole community and would work to continue and increase our generous works to support others.

**Rachel Hott**

Hi Redeemer! I am Rachel Hott and I am running for a position on the Pastoral Council.

I have been attending Redeemer since birth (1995) and received both my Baptism and Confirmation at Redeemer. I completed my Religious Education in the Parish as well. During high school and college, I volunteered with Vacation Bible School and preschool-aged Religious Education. After completing law school, I have volunteered with the youth, chaperoning for Catholic Heart Workcamp and serving as a co-leader for Confirmation with Deacon Ron Reger. I also participate as a member of the choir and one of my favorite things is cantoring at 8:00 Mass.

As a member of the Council, I hope to bring new insight as a young-adult member. I wish to remain a part of Redeemer for a long time; therefore, seeing the Parish grow, flourish, and sustain its member population and social mission is very important to me. I truly believe fostering a growing young-adult and youth membership is of vital importance to attaining these goals. Additionally, I will bring new ideas, out-of-the-box thinking, and good communication to the Council.

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to run for a position on the Council and would be honored to take on this new role at Redeemer. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

**Walt Strobach**

My name is Walt Strobach, and I am a candidate for Redeemer’s Pastoral Council. I have been retired from the “working world” for the past 20 years. My wife and I have been members of Redeemer since 2003.

As a member of Redeemer, I have served as a lector, eucharistic minister, cross bearer and youth ministry instructor. I have previously served on Pastoral Council a number of years ago and found it to be extremely rewarding and I hope my time contributed to the success that has been achieved by Redeemer.

It is a privilege to serve on Pastoral Council and contribute to the pastoral success of Redeemer.

**Suzanne Thibault**

Hello to all…

My name is Suzanne Thibault, and I am honored and humbled to have the opportunity to be a candidate for Pastoral Council. I have been a parishioner of the Church of the Redeemer for the past 9 years. Prior to moving to the Mechanicsville area, I was a parishioner of St. Mary’s Catholic Church in the West End for 17 years. I also have the privilege of being a Godmother to 2 amazing young adults who attend St. Ann’s Catholic Church in Ashland.

I am a Gerontologist by education and passion, and currently work as a Practice Manager for Bon Secours overseeing the divisions of Behavioral Health and Infectious Disease. I am very active with the Bon Secours ministry as well as community advocate for the Alzheimer’s Association.

I thoroughly enjoy our parish and have made some wonderful friends here. I have been a Friendly Visitor- reaching out to those who are homebound to bring communion, and spend some time with them visiting, praying. I have participated in the Annual Christmas Bazaar and bake sale and am currently a Lector for the 5:30pm Mass.

As a member of the Parish Council, I hope to be able to utilize some of my talents and skills including-mindful listening, management, organization, team building, community networking, forecasting approaches, and curiosity- that will be helpful in working with a group and bringing people together.

In person attendance to our Masses and being inclusive to all wanting to worship with us is very important to me. The idea of community and fellowship is key to growth. I look forward to pondering opportunities for the future growth and development of our Parish community…to learn and advocate the ideas of Fr. Jim, our Parish community, and Catholic Diocese to help us get to the next level.

Change is one constant we can rely on…how we accept and move forward with change will define us and make us stronger…together.