

# Pastoral Council

**Our Mission** - The Pastoral Council advises the pastor in setting parish direction through a process of pastoral planning that will define the mission for the parish; discern the needs of the parish community; develop goals and priorities that will address these needs and opportunities; and call members of the parish to participate in this mission. Pastoral Council Members are appointed by the Pastor.



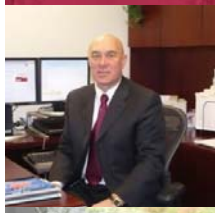
**Bill and Mary Cavnar** - Bill and Mary have been married 40 years, and have 7 children. Parishioners since 1982, all 7 children attended St. Thomas School. Bill and Mary have focused their faith-directed activities entirely at St. Thomas since the late 1980s. They have been active in such things as small faith-sharing groups, prayer groups, baptism preparation, and most recently the Alpha courses. Bill has worked his entire professional life as a computer scientist and software developer, while Mary has been a full-time homemaker, managing their large and busy household.



**Moira Cullen** - Moira is a mother to six children, wife to John Cullen, and a parishioner of St. Thomas for the past 12 years. She graduated with degrees in Philosophy and Theology from the Franciscan University of Steubenville. She homeschools her children, works for the family garden business, and writes in her free time (though very little time, indeed!). She briefly blogged for the Ann Arbor News, and is currently beginning her own blog, [modernatholic-mom.com](http://modernatholic-mom.com). She was once kissed on the forehead by St. John Paul the Great, and she hasn't had a full night sleep in the past 15 years. She welcomes your prayers; she really needs them!



**Cathy Dowling** - Cathy and her husband, David, have been parishioners at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish since 1992. All seven of their children have attended St. Thomas School. Cathy was an assistant professor of Anesthesiology at the U of M until 1999, but left in order to put her efforts into her family and the Lansing Guild of the Catholic Medical Association (CMA) where her passion had been helping health care professionals incorporate their Catholic faith into their medical practices. Since stepping down as president of the CMA in 2004, she has helped her daughter through chemotherapy for Hodgkins lymphoma, taught math as a volunteer at St. Thomas school, and volunteered at Hope Clinic. She currently works in clinical research in the Department of Neurology at the University of Michigan.



**Rod Gauvin** - Rod, his wife Paula, and their special needs son, Eric have been parishioners at St. Thomas the Apostle for a decade. They have two adult daughters who are health care professionals in Wisconsin. Rod is current Chancellor and Past Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus - Council 587. During his 40 year career in publishing, he held many executive roles and concurrently served on many association, non-profit and foundation boards. Through his consulting firm, Acadian Enterprises, Rod now provides strategic direction to companies in the information industry. He is active in parish life through his volunteer work with the Knights, the Parish Council and as an usher, lector and Extraordinary Minister.



**Naomi Corera** - Naomi a former Montessori school teacher and administrator at Spiritus Sanctus Academy and has been a parishioner of St. Thomas since 1994. She currently runs a Children Waiting Everywhere which is a 100% volunteer run non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to helping those in poverty all over the world. To learn more go to [www.childrenwaitingeverywhere.org](http://www.childrenwaitingeverywhere.org). Her mother, Dorothy, and Naomi are very blessed to be part of the St. Thomas Family.



**Francis Lum** - Francis Lum has been with St. Thomas since 1990. He has been with the Parish Pastoral Council for the past three years. He also is a member of the St. Thomas Choir. He is on the board of directors of Catholic United for the Faith. He is also a Consecrated Marian Catechist under His Eminence Cardinal Raymond Burke. He was a personal assistant to Servant of God, Fr. John A Hardon SJ from 1993 until he entered into eternity in 2000. Prior to his retirement he was engineering and management consultant for high technology start-ups in the Bay Area California. Prior to starting his consultation business he was Vice President of Engineering at Irwin Magnetic, a manufacturer of disk drives and magnetic tape drives in Ann Arbor.



**Dave and Marie Williams** - Dave & Marie are the parents of 5 children ranging in age from 14 to 29. Their oldest child is a member of the Sisters of Life. Dave is employed by the Medical Center and Marie keeps busy with volunteering. They have been members of St Thomas for 8 years.



**Paul and JoAnn Thiefels** - Paul and JoAnn have been members of St Thomas since 1986. They have 4 grown children and 4 grandchildren. Paul is a retired social worker and JoAnn a homemaker. She has worked as a florist and parish cook. She sews with the Blanket Ladies making blankets for newborns. Paul serves on the St Vincent de Paul conference and is a lector and Eucharistic minister.