

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE SLATE FOR VESTRY ELECTIONS 2021



### ***Mission***

*To love and serve God faithfully,  
To know Christ fully,  
To make Him known to others  
through the Holy Spirit's power.*

Hello Trinity,

You are about to read the bios of wonderful Christians who have agreed to stand for election to your vestry. Unfortunately, you only get to vote for four (4) of them. You are given the responsibility of deciding who will lead our church at this time. To help you in your prayerful deliberations I have summarized the role of vestry below.

**Vestries** have responsibility for and authority over the temporal concerns of the parish.

- *Property:* The vestry is responsible for the construction, care, security, and maintenance of the property, buildings, and furnishings of the parish.
- *Stewardship:* The vestry is responsible for providing the resources necessary for the mission and ministers of the parish.
- *Budget:* The vestry adopts and administers the budgets (operating, capital, endowments, and special funds) of the parish and ensures appropriate financial systems and controls.

*Leadership:* The vestry has legal responsibilities for the parish: Duty of Care, Duty of Loyalty, Duty of Obedience, and fiduciary and strategic responsibilities.

Members of the Vestry are accountable to the congregation and the rector for their leadership of church affairs, and are encouraged to actively participate in programs or ministries they are passionate about as individuals (and/or as appointed by the rector).

### **What is needed to serve?**

- A heart for Jesus Christ and Trinity Parish
- Willingness to be in community with other church leaders
- Openness to hear God's word and to set aside personal agendas
- A Confirmed communicant in good standing (i.e. has been confirmed in an Episcopal church, and is consistent in attendance and financial support of the parish)

Thank you for your prayerful participation in identifying the leadership God has for us in this next season in the life of Trinity,  
Father Matt



**Susan Bagan**

**Member of Trinity since:** 06/16/2003

**Baptized:** St. James Episcopal Church, North Salem, NY

**Confirmed:** St. James Episcopal Church, North Salem, NY

**Local resident since:** 05/17/2003

**Immediate family members:** Dan Bagan (Husband)

**Occupation:** Realtor

**Current and past leadership roles, civic and/or in Christian ministry.**

Food Pantry

**Personal interest:** Gardening, entertaining, reading

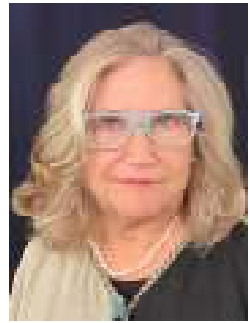
**Ministry involvement at Trinity**

Newcomer's committee, Thrift Store, Altar Guild, Chalice Bearer and Reader

**Spiritual Gifts:** Serving, leadership and giving

**I would like to serve on vestry at this time because....**

I would like to be a part of our outreach into the community with our growing parish and would hope my life experiences in business and in my personal life would be an asset.



**Bruce Belmont**

**Member of Trinity since:** 06/01/2010

**Local resident since:** 07/12/2004

**Baptized:** St. Paul's Methodist Church

**Confirmed:** Trinity Parish

**Immediate family members:** Mary Lou Belmont (spouse) Nicholas Belmont, Suzanne Belmont (children)

**Occupation:** Realtor

**Current and past leadership roles, civic and/or in Christian ministry.**

- St Augustine Beach Chamber of Commerce
- Served a prior term on Vestry
- Current Vestry member serving a 1-year term 2020
- Current Junior Warden 2020

**Personal interest:** Golf, surfing, sailing, traveling

**Ministry involvement at Trinity:**

- Current Junior Warden
- Stewardship Committee for last 5 years
- Past Involvement in Youth Ministry
- Member of Empty Nesters
- Served on multiple Cursillo Teams
- Co-Chaired Discovery twice

**Spiritual Gifts:** Faith, discernment, evangelism

**I would like to serve on vestry at this time because....**

if it is God's will, I would like to continue to serve our parish and parishioners and continue the work I have begun to serve God's Church.



## Darcy Davis

**Member of Trinity since:** 09/01/1992

**Baptized:** Episcopalian, Farmington, MI

**Confirmed:** Trinity Episcopal, Buckingham, PA

**Local resident since:** 07/15/1989

**Immediate family members:** Mike (husband), Wesley-Katherine, Reese, Ethan and Matthew (children)



**Occupation:** Retired teacher. When our kids were young, I taught for 2 years at TELC. I also spent 16 years in the public school system teaching first and second grade.

**Current and past leadership roles, civic and/or in Christian ministry.**

- Past TELC Board member (1995-2003?)
- TELC Board member 2019- current
- Cathedral Parish School -PTO past board member
- RB HUNT PTO Past Board Member - secretary
- Past Grade Level Chair at WD Hartley Elementary

**Personal Interest:** Traveling, exercising, cooking, reading

**Ministry involvement at Trinity**

- Search committee for Fr. David
- Sunday School Teacher (1990-2000) & 2019
- VBS Volunteer
- Mission Trip Volunteer (2009)
- Alpha Prayer Team/participant, Alpha Leader
- Realm Neighborhood Leader
- Empty Nester member

**Spiritual Gifts:** Hospitality. teaching/mentoring, faith, listening/compassion/empathy

**I would like to serve on vestry at this time because....**

Trinity holds a special place in my heart. It been an integral part of our family for many years, through many different seasons of life. I am forever grateful and feel called to give back.

## **Grace DeLaughter**

**Member of Trinity since:** 10/25/1998

**Local resident since:** 08/07/1998

**Baptized:** Grace Baptist Church, Gainesville, FL

**Confirmed:** Trinity Parish

**Immediate family members:** Doc (husband); Madeline Costa (bonus daughter)

**Occupation:** Teacher; retired.

### **Current and past leadership roles, civic and/or in Christian ministry.**

- Former member of the local chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international Women Educators' Society.
- Longstanding member of The Order of The Daughters of the King, and former middle school Sunday School teacher.

**Personal Interest:** Writing, animals and nature, cooking

### **Ministry involvement at Trinity**

- Phone ministry
- Lay reader
- Grouping (weekly small group as part of Cursillo).
- Monthly visits to St. Francis House for encouragement and prayer (Prior to Covid)
- Lay Eucharistic Visitor
- Chalice

**Spiritual Gifts:** Encouragement, compassion, faith. (They are all intertwined.)

### **I would like to serve on vestry at this time because....**

For years I have taken the behind-the-scenes work of "Church" for granted. Now that I'm retired from fulltime employment, I can spend more time in Bible reading, prayer, and service to Trinity.



## Elena Laguardia

**Member of Trinity since:** 09/01/2014

**Baptized:** Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Paterson, NJ

**Confirmed:** Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Paterson, NJ

**Local resident since:** 07/04/2006



**Immediate family members:** My husband, Dan Gassert, and I celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary this spring. We have three children, Daniel (16), Eva (14) and Emilia (11). Eva and Emi attended Trinity Early Learning Center 2010-2014. Our family moved to St. Augustine in 2006 when Dan joined G.I. Associates of St. Augustine.

**Occupation:** Director of Major Gifts, Flagler Health Care Foundation (I stepped down in August to be home with our girls who are doing virtual school.) I have an MBA from New York University and have worked in marketing in both healthcare and financial services.

### **Current and past leadership roles, civic and/or in Christian ministry.**

#### Current

- Nease High School, School Advisory Council (SAC), Member
- Nease High School, IB Booster Club, Membership Chair
- R.J. Murray Middle School, St. Johns Center for the Arts Booster Club, Member
- Duke University, Alumni Association, Interviewer

#### Past

- Flagler Health Care Foundation, Board of Trustees Member, Planning & Development Committee Member
- tag! Children's Museum, Board Member, Presidential Advisory Committee liaison
- Junior Service League of St. Augustine, Founder of "Feel the Wheels" event, Current Active Sustainer



- All American Air Charitable Foundation, Board Member
- R.B. Hunt Elementary School, Student Advisory Council (SAC), Member

**Personal Interest:** Travel, art museums, time with my family

**Ministry Involvement at Trinity**

- Lay reader at 9:00 AM service
- Children's Sunday School, 4th-5th grade class
- Chaperone of Youth Group field trips
- Vacation Bible School and Children's Church Volunteer

**Spiritual Gifts:** I would like to serve our parish using my spiritual gifts of Discernment, Leadership and Service.

**I would like to serve on vestry at this time because....**

As a parent of school-aged children, I have seen the impact family ministry has on our youth. I will work to support our family faith formation efforts to meet the needs of our growing community.

## **Helen McCrone**

**Member of Trinity since:** 11/26/2017

**Baptized:** All Soul's Church, Hastings,  
East Sussex, England

**Confirmed:** All Soul's Church, Hastings,  
East Sussex, England



**Local resident since:** 11/04/2017

**Immediate family members:** Archie McCrone (husband)

**Occupation:** Copywriter

### **Current and past leadership roles, civic and/or in Christian ministry**

- President of my community's HOA (USA)
- Chair of my HOA's Welcoming Committee (USA)
- Financial controller for a retail subsidiary of Swiss Air (Netherlands)
- Departmental manager for three manufacturing companies (UK)
- Member of All Soul's Parochial Church Council (UK)
- Assistant to St John's Hollington Sunday School (UK)

**Personal Interest:** Yoga, photography, playing Bid Whist

### **Ministry Involvement at Trinity**

- Assist Administrator once a month with various 'front desk' roles
- In Communication Group (Internal/External)
- On rota for providing meals at St Francis' House
- Helped with coffee/cakes on Sundays

**Spiritual Gifts:** Encouraging, helping, hospitality

### **I would like to serve on vestry at this time because....**

I appreciate being a member of such an active, welcoming church. This is an opportunity to grow my faith, open my heart to other aspects of the church, and serve God and my neighbors.

**James Pearson**

**Member of Trinity since:** 03/27/2016

**Baptized:** Mill Creek Baptist Church, St. Augustine

**Confirmed:** Trinity Parish

**Local resident since:** 02/20/1985

**Immediate family members:** Amanda (wife), Samuel, Mariam, and Magnolia (children)

**Occupation:** Machinist, current

**Current and past leadership roles, civic and/or in Christian ministry.**

Former Deacon at Ancient City Baptist Church, St. Augustine

**Personal Interest:** Cooking

**Ministry involvement at Trinity**

- Lay reader
- Dining with dignity food prep

**Spiritual Gifts:** Hospitality, teaching, public speaking

**I would like to serve on vestry at this time because....**

This is an exciting time for Trinity Parish with the renewed focus on young families and future plans for a church plant in World Golf Village, both of which concern groups I can represent.



