

WHAT ARE YOU DOING - FOR GOD'S SAKE?

The following are descriptions of the various ministries which advance our efforts to fulfill our Vision. Parishioners are invited to make a one year or three year commitment to work with these ministry teams.

THREE-YEAR COMMITMENT

PASTORAL COUNCIL

On Pentecost Sunday, four of our registered and confirmed members will be chosen by lot to serve on the Pastoral Council. The Council works with our pastor and the various ministry teams to guide our parish according to our Vision Statement. Specifically, council members seek to grow through their own continuing education. Secondly, we send members as liaisons to each of the ministry teams. Thirdly, we create opportunities for all our parishioners and ministry teams to participate in discerning the needs of the parish and in the setting of goals and projects to fulfill these needs. Volunteers for this ministry make a three-year commitment.

STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

The Stewardship Council is composed of parishioners committed to the Biblical concept of stewardship. They recognize that our time, our gifts, our talents and our treasure ultimately come from God, and they thank the Lord by returning to God, some of what they have received. More importantly, the Stewardship Team is committed to helping all of our parishioners to become good stewards. Members who volunteer for this ministry council are asked to make a three-year commitment.

ONE-YEAR COMMITMENT

COMMUNITY LIFE TEAM

In a sense, this ministry team might be called the ministry of fun and frolic! This team is committed to enhancing the social and communal life of the parish through an assortment of gatherings throughout the year, including: the September Picnic, as well as fun events for families and adults. Those who join this ministry are asked to make a one-year commitment.

ADULT FORMATION TEAM

This team is composed of men and women who are interested in sharing their faith. No experience is necessary! The aim of the team is to continue to build an inviting, welcoming atmosphere in our community for all adults and to reach out to those who have no religious affiliation of their own and to the inactive or alienated Catholics in our area. We would especially welcome those who have a talent for journalism, marketing or public relations, who could assist us with creative ways to spread the "Good News". This ministry team meets about eight times during the school year. Volunteers for this ministry make a one -year commitment to it.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION TEAM

The Formation Ministry Team looks for ways to develop communication between the parish, youth and our families. We are committed to embracing our children as our younger brothers and sisters in Christ. Our mission is to support a strong Religious Education program and a Youth Group that will excite our youth into learning and sharing our faith fully. This ministry team meets once a month, usually on the third Monday. We encourage you to make this one-year commitment to invest in the faith formation of our youth!

ONE-YEAR COMMITMENT

PARISH WELLNESS TEAM

This is a ministry team has about 10 meetings a year (on the last Wednesday of the month) and coordinates the three ministries that make up the wellness ministry. The three ministries are health care professionals, the Samaritans and the BeFriends. These are caring, service oriented people whose concern is the care and well being of our parishioners. The Samaritans coordinate services to those need (food, transportation, light housework, etc). The health professionals share their knowledge with the community in a variety of informational and service programs geared to our better health. The BeFriends provide a pastoral listening presence to those in a crisis or other specific need. Those who join this ministry make a one -year commitment to this ministry.

CHARITY & JUSTICE TEAM

The Charity & Justice Ministry Team plans and coordinates our parish's effort to reach out to those in need by providing assistance. Some of their many tasks are to bring food to the needy, work with the homeless shelter, collect gifts at holiday time and collect clothes for needy infants. They also are charged with the task of working to help the needy help themselves. This Ministry Team has about 10 meetings a year (on the second Tuesday of the month). Members who volunteer for this ministry make a commitment for one year.

PROPERTIES TEAM

This is a *hands-on* ministry team. The Properties Team is concerned with the maintenance, upkeep, safety and continuing development of our parish buildings and property. The efforts of this team involve our maintenance personnel. Special projects require the recruitment and organization of volunteers or the hiring of contractors. Besides the ongoing work of this group, team members will meet about 8 times during the year for planning. Those who sign up for this ministry are asked to make a one-year commitment to it.

WORSHIP TEAM

The Worship Ministry Team plans and coordinates the Liturgical celebrations of our parish. Bringing together our Liturgical ministries, pastoral musicians and members of the Art & Environment team, they work to plan and coordinate prayerful celebrations of the Liturgy. They also strive to enrich our people's understanding of the Mass. This Ministry Team has about 10 meetings a year (on the first Wednesday of the month) and does additional work in between the meetings. Members who volunteer for this ministry are asked to make a commitment for one year.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - CATECHISTS & AIDES

Our Vision commits us to *embrace our children as our younger brothers and sisters in Christ. We envision a strong religious education program that will excite our youth into learning and sharing with us fully.* St. Mary Magdalen has a dynamic program dedicated to this vision. Many parishioners volunteer to assist in our program but many more catechists and aides are needed. Volunteers are asked to make a one-year commitment.

TECHNOLOGY TEAM

Our Technology Team reviews the technology (hardware and software) used in our parish offices. They recommend and install appropriate updates as needed. This team also oversees the updates to our parish website. Volunteers are asked to make a one-year commitment to this ministry.

E TEAM

Our E Team works to increase the gift of faith in parishioners, welcome back to the Catholic Church non-practicing Catholics, invite the non-churched to St. Mary Magdalen, and advertise beyond the parish opportunities for returning to the Church and adult formation. Volunteers are asked to make a one-year commitment to this ministry.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING - FOR GOD'S SAKE?

It has been said that what we are as individuals with gifts, talents and abilities is God's gift to us. What we make of ourselves is our gift to God. Stewardship is an expression of our gratitude to God, by sharing with others some of the time, talent & treasure God has given to us!

The following are descriptions of the various ministry teams which are organized to advance our efforts to fulfill our Vision. For the next two weekends, parishioners are invited to make a one year commitment to work with other parishioners in this effort.

WELCOMING TEAM

The Welcoming Ministry Team enables new people to become full members of the parish. Team members contact those who have expressed an interest in joining and set a time and date to make a visit to the home. During the visit the member presents a welcome packet that includes our Vision Statement and other information on the parish. After explaining our parish, opportunities for involvement and answering questions, the team member fills out a registration form with the new parishioner. The team member then follows up by meeting the new parishioners at a weekend Liturgy in order to introduce them to other members of the parish. Those who volunteer for this ministry make a one year commitment.

SAMARITANS

The Samaritans are a group, who, like the Good Samaritan in the Scriptures, tend to the immediate needs of fellow parishioners. There are four sub-groups: transportation, meals, household help and funeral luncheons. When a parishioner is seriously ill or hospitalized, the Samaritans provide short-term help of meals, transportation or other household help. Volunteers provide a dish for funeral lunches and some help serve. Transportation is provided to those who are unable to drive themselves to Mass, to medical appointments or to shop. We are in desperate need of volunteers, especially those who can help us during the day or weekdays.

RCIA SPONSORS

Each year some of our parishioners enter the "Journey of Faith" which leads them to join our Church at Easter. RCIA Sponsors join these candidates in the fall for the rest of their journey. Sponsors participate in the Sunday sessions and offer their candidate support and encouragement throughout the journey. Sponsors are people of faith who are willing to share that gift with others! Volunteers make a one year commitment to this ministry.

LITURGICAL SINGERS & MUSICIANS

Our Liturgies are prayer, some spoken and some sung. The Liturgical Singers and Musicians lead the sung prayer of the Mass. Our Liturgical Singers and Musicians meet weekly for rehearsal. Volunteers for this ministry make a one year commitment.

RESURRECTION CHOIR

Singers and musicians are invited to be a part of a new and special Liturgical ministry. They provide the consolation of musical prayer at funeral Liturgies. *If you choose this ministry, you need to be available to serve on weekdays, when most funerals occur.* Volunteers for this ministry make a one-

year commitment.

PARISH HEALTH TEAM

This is a ministry team of health care professionals who work with our Parish Wellness Team to share their knowledge with the community in a variety of informational and service programs geared to our better health. Those who join this ministry should be a trained health care professionals. Folks are asked to sign up for a specific project of this ministry team: blood pressure weekends, blood drives, special events. Volunteers make a one year commitment to this ministry.

TECHNOLOGY TEAM

The Technology Team is responsible for the care and updating of our parish website. It is also responsible for the maintenance, care and updating of computer systems

LITURGICAL ART & ENVIRONMENT

The Liturgical Art & Environment Task Group works in conjunction with the Worship Ministry Team to enhance our worship space for the seasons and special feasts during the Church Year. They meet for planning but most of the work is done in small groups or by individuals. Volunteers for this ministry make a one year commitment.

MINISTERS OF PRAYER

Hardly a day goes by without some one asking for prayer for a special need. This is a commitment to pray for the needs of our fellow parishioners and the parish. Ministers of prayer commit themselves to pray for one hour each month in our Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Our prayer requests will be placed there, The prayer minister prays for these during their hour and takes the requests with them to continue their prayer through the rest of the month.

SPECIAL SKILLS

There is always a need for folks with special skills. It may be woodworking, sewing, calligraphy, metal working and many others. If you have a special skill and would be willing to place this gift at the service of the community, there will be a sign up sheet for you. Those who sign up would be willing to donate their time and talent to the parish in response to a need that would arise over the next year.

COFFEE & DONUTS

Each weekend we serve coffee & donuts after the Liturgy, providing the opportunity for us to continue the community we have just celebrated. The role of those hosting is to set up beforehand and to clean up afterward. It requires about 30 minutes before and after the Liturgy. Those who choose this ministry serve about six times a year (once every other month) and are asked to make a one year commitment.

☐ ***People may doubt what you say, but they will believe what you do."***

Lewis Cass

THE LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

WORSHIP TEAM

The Worship Ministry Team plans and coordinates the Liturgical celebrations of our parish. Bringing together our Liturgical ministries, pastoral musicians and members of the Art & Environment team, they work to plan and coordinate prayerful celebrations of the Liturgy. They also strive to enrich our people's understanding of the Mass. This Ministry Team has about 10 meetings a year (on the first Wednesday of the month) and does additional work in between the meetings. Members who volunteer for this ministry are asked to make a commitment for one year.

LITURGICAL SINGERS & MUSICIANS

Our Liturgies are prayer, some spoken and some sung. The Liturgical Singers and Musicians lead the sung prayer of the Mass. Our Liturgical Singers and Musicians meet weekly for rehearsal. Volunteers for this ministry make a one year commitment.

RESURRECTION CHOIR

Singers and musicians are invited to be a part of a new and special Liturgical ministry. They provide the consolation of musical prayer at funeral Liturgies. *If you choose this ministry, you need to be available to serve on weekdays, when most funerals occur.* Volunteers for this ministry make a one-year commitment.

LITURGICAL ART & ENVIRONMENT

The Liturgical Art & Environment Task Group works in conjunction with the Worship Ministry Team to enhance our worship space for the seasons and special feasts during the Church Year. They meet for planning but most of the work is done in small groups or by individuals. Volunteers for this ministry make a one year commitment.

MINISTERS OF PRAYER

Hardly a day goes by without some one asking for prayer for a special need. This is a commitment to pray for the needs of our fellow parishioners and the parish. Ministers of prayer commit themselves to pray for one hour each month in our Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Our prayer requests will be placed there. The prayer minister prays for these during their hour and takes the requests with them to continue their prayer through the rest of the month.

COFFEE & DONUTS

Each weekend we serve coffee & donuts after the Liturgy, providing the opportunity for us to continue the community we have just celebrated. The role of those hosting is to set up beforehand and to clean up afterward. It requires about 30 minutes before and after the Liturgy. Those who choose this ministry serve about six times a year (once every other month) and are asked to make a one year commitment.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

The role of the Minister of the Eucharist is to serve as the Assembly, the Body of Christ. That means that we serve both the people of God - the Body of Christ, as well as to distribute the Eucharist to them. Ministers of the Eucharist need to arrive 20 minutes before the Liturgy to assure that the bread, wine, water and vessels are ready. They then welcome the people of God, the Body of Christ as they enter. After the Liturgy they are responsible for washing all the vessels and returning them to wherever they will be needed.

Volunteers for this ministry must be responsible people of faith and of service to others who are Confirmed in the Catholic Church and registered in the parish.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

The role of the Minister of the Word is to serve the Assembly by bringing the Word of God to life. Since the Assembly does not have the readings, it all the more important that the minister is well prepared and lively in their proclamation. Ministers of the Word need to arrive 20 minutes before the Liturgy in order to familiarize themselves with the readings as they appear in the Lectionary and prepare for the introduction and General Intercessions.

Volunteers for this ministry must be responsible people of faith who love the Word of God. They must also be Confirmed in the Catholic Church and registered in the parish.

MINISTERS OF THE ALTAR (Altar Servers)

The role of the Minister of the Altar is to serve the Assembly by helping the presider during the Liturgy. Servers wear good shoes, dark slacks and a white or light colored dress shirt or blouse and a cross while serving. They help prepare the server table and light the candles before the Liturgy and assist the presider during the Liturgy. Servers arrive 20 minutes beforehand to help prepare and remain afterward to help clean up.

Volunteers for this ministry must be people responsible people of faith who have made their first Communion and first Penance (fifth grade and older). Adults and parent/child teams are welcome to be a part of this ministry.

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

The role of the hospitality is serve as the hosts/hostesses of our parish family as it assembles for the Liturgy. They welcome and assist people as they enter, they aide people to find proper seating, they gather the gifts of the assembly and they assist people as they leave. Ministers of Hospitality need to arrive 30 minutes before the Liturgy to make sure that everything needed is set up and ready. After the Liturgy they need to remain to assure that all is in order.

Volunteers for this ministry may be families, couples or individuals who are responsible, reliable and friendly and registered members of the parish.