

## **Worship and Spirituality**

Worship and Spirituality is the focal point of our Catholic Faith, where we come together as Catholics to celebrate the fundamental beliefs of our Faith. These religious experiences are enriched by the ministries listed below that are available to lay members of the parish; they provide many opportunities for the sharing of our time and talent and for giving back the gifts God has given us.

- † (Adult) Altar Server - serves God and His people at the holy sacrifice of the Mass by helping the priest and the worshippers to praise God.
- † Eucharistic Minister - assists the celebrant at Mass in distribution of Communion and the Cup.
- † Lector - reads the Word of God to the assembled community, reading in such a way that they truly hear the Word that is to shape their lives.
- † Usher- greets and helps worshippers gathering for Mass, and takes up the collection.
- † Sacristy Mass set-up - -helps with mass set up for visiting priests.
- † Sacristy Altar Linens – cleans altar linens on a regular basis
- † Rosary leader – leads rosary before weekend masses.

## **Music Ministry**

Music is an important part of any celebration, and the celebration of the Eucharist is no different. Music Ministry welcomes those who can play the organ or musical instruments, lead the congregation in singing and/or encourage prayer among the people through song.

- † Cantors - Currently cantors sing within our choir.
- † Choir – leads the congregation in faith-filled singing during liturgy, and encourages prayer and worship through song.
- † Instrumentalists – enrich our liturgies by sharing the gift of their instrument.
- † Organist – enrich our liturgies by playing the organ or electronic keyboard.

## **Religious Education**

Learning about the foundations of our faith and passing on that knowledge are the most important things we can do for future generations. Listed here are several opportunities both to learn more about our Church's teachings and scripture and to assist in helping younger parishioners understand and appreciate that heritage.

- † Teacher, Sub/helpers - share their knowledge of Catholic faith, teachings and traditions with children, youth or adults.
- † Vacation Bible School – share faith and fun learning experiences with children in preschool through fifth grade
- † Adult Faith Formation – helps share and deepen understanding of Catholic faith.

## **Youth Ministry**

Our youth are not only the future of the parish, but also a vital element of its present. Listed here are many opportunities for the youth of St. Teresa to join together and live our faith in rewarding and enjoyable activities

- † Youth Group - is a church-wide ministry which strives to provide a variety of opportunities and experiences to draw teens into active, responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the faith community and the greater church.
- † Altar Server—(See Worship and Spirituality)
- † Confirmed High School students also serve as Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Commentator, or Usher. – (See Worship and Spirituality)
- † Adult Volunteer for Youth - provides guidance for the youth of St. Teresa parish on their faith journey.

## **Social Events**

Parish events are not only fundraisers to provide financial resources for the parish, but also a way to foster community life within the parish and beyond.

- † Community Days – parishioners organize and staff the hamburger tent for Community Days providing a service to the community and resources for the parish.
- † Parish Dance – parishioners organize and run a family friendly, and fun dinner and dance for all ages that enrich our faith community and provides financial resources.
- † Easter Candy Sales – provides sweets at Easter and financial resources for the parish.

## **Committees**

One sign of the vitality of a parish is all the activity of the organizations that assist the parish in its mission. Listed here are many opportunities to do just that. There are groups for all, depending on interests.

- † Finance Commission – directs the current financial policies of the parish, and plans for its future by the careful stewardship of its resources.
- † Pastoral Council – Three men and three women are elected by the adults of the parish to help direct the work and worship of the parish.
- † Women’s Organization – is a traditional Catholic organization that provides spiritual, social and charitable opportunities for women.
- † Maintenance Committee – ensures that the parish buildings and grounds are in good working order, to enhance the worship and social experiences of the people with safe and well-maintained buildings and grounds.

## **Community Outreach**

To help move St. Teresa Parish forward in its mission, we must extend our services and activities beyond the church building and liturgical celebrations. Many opportunities exist through which we can offer our time to “reach out” to the community and at the same time enhance our own parish social relationships.

- † Count Sunday Collection – assists with the financial resources counting the collection on a rotating basis.
- † Bereavement Ministry – assist families in mourning with the planning of the funeral liturgy for their loved one, to help the priests and parish staff organize the necessary details.
- † Funerals – helps the family of deceased parishioners by providing a luncheon after the funeral liturgy.
- † Prayer chain – via email/phone supports sick and suffering members of the parish family through prayer.
- † Communion to the sick/homebound – distribute Holy Communion to St. Teresa parish members who are sick, homebound or who reside in nursing homes or other facilities.
- † Rosary at the Nursing home – leads weekly rosary on Saturday’s at the Laurel’s of Shane Hill.

## **Environmental**

We parishioners of St. Teresa are rightfully proud of our beautiful church and the parish grounds as a whole. But to maintain and decorate it takes planning and time. Listed here are several ways that we can assist in keeping it beautiful, both decorating for special occasions in church and maintaining the parish grounds.

- † Clean Church and Sacristy - enriches the worship experience of parishioners by keeping the church building clean.
- † Clean Church Basement - keeps the classrooms for youth and events clean and maintained.
- † Church Decorating - enriches the worship area with seasonal decorations.
- † General Maintenance - ensures that the buildings and grounds are in good working order, to enhance the worship and social experiences of the people with safe and well-maintained buildings and grounds.
- † Landscaping - cares for the grounds surrounding the church, maintaining the landscaping in such a way that it provides a welcoming environment for the people of the parish and the larger community, and serves as a palate of God’s natural beauty.