

Our Lady of Peace Parish Stewardship Opportunities

Altar Server - Lights and extinguishes the candles, holds the book for some prayers led by the priest, sets the altar at the Offertory, and similar helping details. Server's must have received First Communion and may continue through high school.

Cantor - Gives welcome and announcements before Mass and leads the congregation in the Psalm and hymns selected.

Choirs - We are blessed to have a variety of choirs who rehearse the music for Mass. Some choir members are cantors also. There is room for you too!

Greeters - At the door well before Mass begins, greeters welcome people into our church, answer questions (restrooms, special seating for Baptism family, handicap seating, etc.).

Eucharistic Minister - Comes into the sanctuary after the Sign of Peace and after receiving Communion, goes to pre-assigned station to distribute Communion to the congregation. Finishing this, then proceeds to sacristy to wash patens, chalices etc. before putting them away.

Lector - Reviews readings in advance, processes in and out of Mass with priest, reads scripture passages of the day and also petitions if deacon is not present.

Scheduler of Ministers - Using computer program creates the schedule for Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and altar servers listing the date and Mass at which they will assist.

Linen Care - Shares with others the responsibility for cleaning at home and returning the same week the smaller altar linens and towels.

Sacristans - Prepares the altar and gift table for Mass, ensuring enough hosts, wine and linens are set out. Recruits substitute if any scheduled ministers do not show.

Ushers - Encourages people to be seated by locating available pews. Takes up collection and places it in required security bags.

Musicians for Liturgy - Our music program is interested in talking to anyone who plays any instrument and is willing to also play at a weekend Mass or on special occasions or holidays.

Bringing the Eucharist to the Sick - The ministry of bringing Communion to the homebound, to GGH Living Centers, or to other establishments is a graced act of service that is dearly needed and sincerely appreciated. A variety of opportunities are available.

Funeral Server - Acts as sacristan and server for funerals in church. Rotates with others in this role. Men and women are welcome.

Funeral Liturgy Planning - Meets with family member(s) to help select readings and music and fill out planning sheet information for funeral liturgy.

Adoration Chapel Prayer - Parishioners volunteer to spend an hour a week in silent prayer in the Eucharistic Adoration Chapel at St. Stephen's. No training necessary, just presence.

Prayer Tree Network - You will be called and your prayers sought when a request is presented for a special intention, often for someone sick.

Communications Committee - Handles projects that will clearly share information about the parish including brochures for special efforts, our parish website and presence on *Facebook*, distributing Mass schedules to area hotels/motels, these committee sketches. (Anne Schuhle, Joanne Church, Sandy Schading)

Pastoral Council - From the Constitution: "The purpose of this Council is to advise and assist the pastoral leader, staff and parishioners in the spiritual, pastoral, social and administrative activities of the parish." This past year the Council discussed and supported the beginning of the Life Teen Mass, the formation of the Stewardship and also Communications Committees and the proposal to convert St. Francis School into senior apartments which is proceeding. (Chris Clark, Barbara Rose, Joe Cirencione)

Spirituality Committee - Develops ways by which our community can strengthen our spiritual lives through resources such as lending book libraries in both church vestibules, selling educational CD's at St Stephen's, considering providing the "Little Rock Bible Study" series this year. (Tom Fitzgerald, Fr. Hoan Dinh)

Finance Committee - This group assists in budget preparation, finalizes and monitors the budget, reviews reports of parish income and expenses, Catholic Ministry Appeal progress, diocesan reporting requirements, weekly collection support, and similar items. This committee is advisory to the pastor and Business Manager. (Ron Martino, Tom Fitzgerald, Tim Buckley)

Social Ministry Committee - This committee makes efforts to be aware of the needs of the larger community and guide our parish in a helpful response, often in concert with other agencies. Examples are: support for the Center of Concern, the Pregnancy Care Center, the Community Lunch Program, annual Blood Drive, Christmas Giving Tree, Thanksgiving Baskets, monthly Hunger Collection, Right to Life Flower Sale, and more. Volunteers always are needed for such efforts. (Marie Milligan, Sue Rago, Joann Greco)

Martha Ministry - This group provides food and serves at luncheons in the Parish Center following parishioner funerals if the family requests. Phone calls go out and each member does whatever she/he can. Our coordinator is Dorothy Kalina.

Collection Counters - Teams work together to tabulate and prepare deposits.

SCRIP Workers (Shopping Card Rewards Program) - Help is needed staffing a table in the back of both churches after each Mass to sell gift cards to parishioners at face value. The parish and school benefit financially by each sale. (Michele O'Brien or Sue Rago)

Hispanic Ministry - The church here has had a Hispanic presence since the 1940's and is very vibrant. Sr. Kay Schwenzer, RSM, is assigned by the diocese to the communities in this region. Help is needed in children's sacramental preparation in conjunction with our Faith Formation staff and very likely would be in English. All are welcome to liturgical (weekly Mass and feast day) and social celebrations. Latino parishioners are on our Pastoral Council, form a monthly cleaning team for St Francis Church and do fundraising for the parish.

Church and Chapel Cleaners - Our two churches are cleaned on Monday mornings by regular teams. Our two chapels (Adoration and Daily Mass) also need cleaners and those teams gather on different days.

Gift Shop - Several months ago our Spirituality Committee presented a proposal to our Pastoral Council outlining setting up a small gift shop in the former baptistry at St Stephen's Church. The Council approved and very, very soon a new gift shop will be opening. The plan is that it will be staffed by volunteers on Sunday mornings. Training is available. If this proves beneficial a shop at St Francis also is proposed. Are you a potential Gift Shop volunteer salesperson at St Stephen's on Sunday mornings? We would like to schedule volunteers once per month if possible. (Tom Fitzgerald)

Faith Formation - Slowly consider these possibilities for yourself; Catechist or Catechist Aide; Vacation Bible School; Children's Liturgy of the Word; RCIA Team; Pre Cana Team; Sacrament Prep (Confirmation, First Penance; First Eucharist). Call 781-2624 to reach Bev Guerrie or Walt Savaria. They would be happy to talk with you.

Youth Ministry - These are some of the roles open to you: Life Teen Music, Mass and Afterwards; Youth Group; Catechist/Teacher; Chaperone/Driver; Special Events. Walt Savaria is happy to meet with you.

Dove Program - A person needing a ride to a local doctor appointment phones a Dove Coordinator who calls one of the Dove volunteer drivers for this request. Volunteer drivers are needed to join the pool of helpers. Dove Coordinators are Mary Ann Lawson and Joann Greco.

Fund Raising Committee - This new committee of the Pastoral Council was formed to foster collaboration in the fundraising efforts of our parish, our school and DeSales. Representatives are working together to communicate, calendar and cooperate as much as possible since fundraising involves many volunteers and appeals to the one Geneva community. The parish and SF-SS School are focused on the SCRIP gift cards and the Harvest Weekend events planned for Columbus Day. DeSales fundraising is separate but we all are in communication, especially about calendar dates for events. Chairperson of this committee is Erica Connor.

St Anthony Society and Rosary Society - These two societies, begun at St Francis many years ago, continue today and are open to women of our parish. They are groups who gather for spiritual and social activities as well as regular business meetings. Many members are visible workers in the areas we have been listing in recent bulletins.

Small Christian Communities - These small groups (6-12 people) meet in homes weekly to discuss the coming Sunday's scripture readings, often using as a guide the booklet, *Quest*. Begun shortly after our diocesan Synod in the 1990's, there are at least three groups continuing today. More are welcome and possible.

St Francis - St Stephen School - St. Francis-St. Stephen's School – Our parish school provides a Catholic education to over 130 students from Geneva and surrounding communities. We are supported by tuition, parish subsidy and a number of fundraising efforts. Volunteers are always needed for our BINGO games, as well as positions in the school as lunch monitors, guest readers, teaching assistants, and occasional building improvements like painting and cleaning.

Religious Education and Youth - Included today are great additional opportunities not previously listed: Catechist and Catechist Aides (Sunday morning or Tuesday evening); Sacrament Preparation Programs; Children's Liturgy of the Word (Sunday morning); Vacation Bible School in mid August; Spirit Alive Family Days; Youth Group or Teen Retreat Volunteer; Life Teen Mass, Music and Program. Call 781-2624 to speak with Bev Guerrie or Walt Savaria.