

## Christian Service Commission

This Commission provides a framework for “calling one another to Christian Service” as expressed in our parish mission statement. The Commission, in collaboration with the Pastor and Pastoral Council, sets a vision and plan for serving others within and beyond our parish. The plan is implemented through the work of various committees under the Commission. The Commission meets every other month to facilitate communication and coordination among the service committees.

- ◇ **Wednesday and Friday night Soup Kitchens**– Our Lady partners with two local churches to cook, bake, Set-up/Clean up and serve meals. The Wednesday kitchen is located at Silver Street United Methodist and cooks once a month while the Friday kitchen cooks every Friday at the St. Paul Episcopal Church. Both kitchens are located in New Albany.
- ◇ **Communion to the Sick and Homebound**- Volunteers assist the pastoral staff with distributing communion to the sick of our parish in homes, hospitals, rehab centers, and nursing homes. Training and orientation is provided.
- ◇ **Health Ministry** - This ministry welcomes healthcare professionals, as well as anyone else who is interested in integrating health and healing with faith and service. Programs/services include: Blood Pressure Screenings, Prayer blankets and caps, Home Grown Goodness, Walk to Jerusalem, and more.
- ◇ **Pro Life Ministry** - The Our Lady pro-life committee exists to promote life from conception to natural death in our families, parish, community, and Archdiocese. We are committed to actively increasing awareness, praying and fasting for the conversation of hearts, and building and supporting pro-life efforts in our community.
- ◇ **Catholics in Action** - The mission of CIA states “We are Catholics joined for social interaction, community service, and spiritual Growth. It is our desire to share our service with our parish family and the community at large. We welcome all in the spirit of Christian Fellowship.”
- ◇ **St. Vincent De Paul**– St. Vincent De Paul is an outreach organization of our parish that strives to meet social, material and spiritual needs of people in the local community who call our church for assistance. SVDP especially needs people to make home visits.
- ◇ **Ministry of Consolation**– The Ministry of Consolation exists to console parishioners experiencing grief from a variety of losses. Our consolation efforts include correspondence, resources for coping and understanding, and seasonal programs or rituals for healing. Interested parishioners are welcome to serve or be served by this ministry.
- ◇ **Funeral Luncheons**– Our parish provides a luncheon after funerals for a deceased member’s family and friends upon request. Volunteers are needed to prepare a dish, solicit entrees and help set up, serve and clean up after the luncheon.
- ◇ **Resurrection Choir**– The resurrection choir is “on call” to sing at parish funerals when needed. Most funerals are scheduled on weekday mornings. Men and women are welcome to join.

## Faith Formation Commission

The Faith Formation Commission assists the Pastor, Pastoral Council, and the Faith Formation staff in establishing policies and setting goals pertinent to Life Long Faith Formation opportunities for the parish. Nine to thirteen appointed members plus the pastor and the Faith Formation staff make up the Faith Formation Commission.

- ◇ **One Church, One Faith**– One Church, One Faith encompasses all Wednesday evening faith formation programming such as Faith First, RCIA, Sacrament Preparation, Adult Faith Formation, and Youth Group. On the first Wednesday of each month (September - April), we gather as an entire parish for *Week One*. *Week One* includes a simple supper, age appropriate catechesis on a common topic and community prayer. Volunteers are needed for *Week One* to help with food, set up and clean up, hospitality, as well as lead or assist with breakout sessions for catechesis.
- ◇ **Lenten Retreat**– Our parish offers an annual retreat for parishioners each Lent. The retreat team consists of lay parishioners with the pastor serving as spiritual director. The retreat is over a three day period: Thursday and Friday/6:00 pm—10:00 pm and Saturday/8:00 am - Noon. We are looking for people to give talks, facilitate small group discussions, prepare and serve meals, provide music, and create a retreat environment.
- ◇ **Bible Study Facilitator**– Our Lady offers a variety of Bible Studies throughout the year. Some meet during the day, some meet in the evening, and one is just for women! Childcare is provided as needed. Volunteers are needed to facilitate small group discussions and to provide child care.
- ◇ **Faith First: Faith Formation for Children (Age 4 - Grade 5)**- Faith First is our faith formation program for children in preschool through 5th Grade. It meets on Wednesdays from 6:30 pm—7:45 pm, August through April. This program teaches the basics of the Catholic faith and supplements faith formation in the home. Volunteers receive supervision, training, and materials.
- ◇ **Vacation Bible School (VBS)**- VBS is for children age three through entering grade five. Junior high and high school youth, as well as adults, are needed to plan and implement this program of Bible stories, skits, snacks, crafts, and games.
- ◇ **Children's Liturgy of the Word**– This occurs during the Liturgy of the Word at the 11:00 am Mass on Sunday. Volunteers are needed to lead children in prayer, song and reflection of the Sunday readings. Materials and training are provided.
- ◇ **The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**- The RCIA is a process by which adults (candidates) may inquire about the Catholic Faith and/or prepare for entry into the Catholic Church. Volunteers are needed to serve as team members or sponsors. Team members assist the RCIA Director in implementing the process. Sponsors assist the candidate as a friend, companion or mentor.

## Family and Parish Life Commission

- ◇ **Marriage Preparation Sponsor Couples** - Sponsor couples are married couples who assist engaged couples in preparing for marriage. Sponsor couples meet each engaged couple an average of three times to discuss the practical and spiritual dimensions to married life. Training and resources provided.
- ◇ **Prime Timers**– The Our Lady Prime Timers is for people age 50 or older. The group meets the first Sunday of the month for food, fellowship, fun and games.
- ◇ **Child Care**– The purpose of this ministry is to provide on-site parish child care during some Church functions or gatherings that would allow more adults with young children to attend. Interested volunteers are asked to check this ministry on the “Enroll” link.
- ◇ **Prayer Line**– The prayer line consists of parishioners who are contacted weekly by email, fax, or US mail at home to receive and pass on prayer requests made by individuals. Prayer line members offer up these requests in prayer throughout the week.
- ◇ **Men’s Club**– The Our Lady Men’s Club is open to all men 21 and older in the parish. General activities center on social, service, and spiritual dimensions of masculinity. This club meets once a month.

## School Commission

- ◇ **Commission for Education** - The Commission for Education assists the educational administrator (School Principal) in setting policy and goals for our school. The CFE consists of the Pastor, 11 elected members (serving three-year terms) and the principal.
- ◇ **Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)** - The PTO exists to promote a clearer understanding of the mutual educational responsibilities of parents and teachers associated with our parish school. The PTO holds monthly business meetings and sponsors some social/educational and fundraising events. Funds raised are used to supplement areas of need in the school; i.e., purchase of equipment, technology, teacher and instructional supplies, etc. Volunteers are needed to run for office annually and to coordinate the various events.
- ◇ **Marketing and Development**– The Marketing and Development Committee assists in preparing an annual comprehensive development plan for the school that includes communications and public relations, marketing, enrollment & retention, and development of financial resources. The committee prepares a communication plan that informs internal and external publics about the “good news” in the school. It also prepares and assists in the implementation of a student recruitment and retention program.
- ◇ **Library Volunteer**– Assists the school with classroom visits and the detail tasks of logging books for check out and tracking books for return.
- ◇ **Classroom Volunteer**– Parents and family members of students are welcome to come into the classroom to assist teachers with tasks in the classroom and also to help with classroom parties for the primary grades.

# Liturgical Commission

- ◇ **Liturgy Committee** - The Liturgy Committee assists the Pastor in preparing the seasonal and Sunday liturgical celebrations. This committee coordinates the training and scheduling of liturgical ministers.
- ◇ **First Friday Eucharistic Adoration**— Our parish hosts a day of Eucharistic adoration on the First Friday of each month. Parishioners are asked to make a visit before the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day. A schedule will ensure that someone is present each hour of the day.
- ◇ **Lectors** - Lectors are also called Ministers of the Word. Two lectors are scheduled for each weekend Mass. They read parish announcements before Mass begins, proclaim the first and second scripture readings prior to the Gospel, and lead the Prayers of the Faithful.
- ◇ **Ushers**— Ushers collect the offering and assist people during the communion procession at Sunday Mass. They also coordinate sign-ups for gift bearers for the offertory procession.
- ◇ **Greeters**— Greeters welcome people at the church doors prior to Saturday evening, Sunday morning and Holy Day Masses and distribute bulletins at the end of Mass.
- ◇ **Altar Servers**— Altar servers consist of early and older adolescents, both male and female. They assist the priest at the altar throughout the Mass. Training is provided.
- ◇ **Eucharistic Ministers**— The Eucharistic Minister assists the Pastor during the Communion Rite of Mass. There are “Host Ministers” and “Cup Ministers”. Training is provided.
- ◇ **Art & Environment**— This ministry coordinates decorating the church for the appropriate seasons: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter & Ordinary Time.
- ◇ **Mass Coordinators**— Sunday Mass Coordinators arrive 30 minutes before Mass to prepare the worship space and check-in liturgical ministers so that all is ready to celebrate Mass. After Mass duties include cleaning/returning (vessels, books, etc.) to their proper order. Mass Coordinators choose their Mass time preference and serve on a rotating basis.
- ◇ **Traditional Choir**— This choir is accompanied by organ/piano. Members practice weekly and sing at the 9:00 am Sunday Mass. Open to men and women high school age and older.
- ◇ **Contemporary Choir**— This choir is accompanied by string instruments and piano. Members practice weekly and sing at the 11:00 am Sunday Mass. Open to men and women high school age and older.
- ◇ **Children’s Choir**— This choir is composed of children in grades 2-5. Members sing monthly for weekend liturgies and other parish events.
- ◇ **Cantors**— Cantors are accompanied by organ, piano or guitar. They lead the congregation in singing at Saturday evening Mass (and Sunday morning Masses during the summer).
- ◇ **Instrumentalists**— Musicians (pianists, organists, guitarists and other instrumentalists) are needed to accompany choirs or cantors.

## Stewardship Commission

- ◇ **Stewardship Team**– This team is the leading agent for communicating, educating, and implementing Christian Stewardship at Our Lady. This is primarily accomplished through print and electronic means, public recognition of volunteers, in-servicing parish leaders, planned giving seminars, faith formation curriculum advocacy, archdiocesan and parish appeals and more.
- ◇ **Main Event**– Many volunteers are needed to plan and coordinate this annual fundraiser that promotes fellowship along with raising funds to meet budget needs for the parish and school.
- ◇ **Buildings and Grounds Committee**– The committee for buildings and grounds is a group that studies, plans, and implements necessary repair and improvements for all parish and school facilities. This committee has regular meetings. Volunteers are sought to be available as needed for various maintenance issues that often arise such as plumbing, painting, general carpentry, landscaping, etc.
- ◇ **Buildings and Grounds Volunteers**– Our grounds and facilities require a great deal of care and continuing maintenance. Professional or skilled craftsman often handle major maintenance. Volunteers may do minor maintenance (gardening, painting, some cleaning, etc.)
- ◇ **Parish Newsletter**– Our parish newsletter is published quarterly. The newsletter staff meets every two months for planning and editing. If you have writing or publication skills consider enrolling in this ministry!

## Youth and Young Adult Commission

- ◇ **Youth Ministry Commission**– The Youth Ministry Commission is the core leadership team of adults and youth that is responsible for assisting in strategic planning, setting policies and advocating on behalf of the young people of our parish. This group helps ensure the growth and development of youth ministry at Our Lady.
- ◇ **Young Adults**– Young Adults aged 22-39 gather together for faith, fun and fellowship through New Albany Deanery events. Activities include Louisville Bats Games, Chili Cook Offs and Young Adult Enrichment Days. Please see the New Albany Deanery Website at <http://cmyoungadult.weebly.com> or call 812-923-8355.
- ◇ **High School Activities Team**– Students in grades 9-12 are invited to participate as leaders for OLAT (Our Lady's Activities Team). These young people are responsible for overseeing the many youth ministry events planned each year. Their responsibilities include monthly meetings, committee work and evaluation of programming. Activities during the year include mission trips, service projects, social events, Youth Masses, retreats, leadership camps, etc.
- ◇ **High School Youth Group**– Our Lady will offer youth group experiences for high school youth. Topics and activities include both contemporary and theological issues of interest to our youth. Live music, prayer and worship are just some of the other highlights of this exciting program. Volunteers are needed to provide snacks, offer their personal or professional experience through witness talks, live music and more!
- ◇ **Middle School Youth Group**– Teens in 6th—8th Grades gather for faith-filled adventures such as the Belle Cruise, retreats, Holiday World, Summer Daze, service projects and prayer groups.
- ◇ **Confirmation Preparation**– The Holy Sacrament of Confirmation is offered each year at the beginning of the second academic semester for high school age youth. A period of formation and catechesis is required, as well as a personal retreat experience. Volunteers are needed to facilitate small group study and offer their personal experience as witness speakers.
- ◇ **Athletic Committee Member**– The Athletic Committee organizes and coordinates sports programs for our parish community for youth in grades Pre-K—12. They hold regular business meetings, recruit and train coaches, help maintain equipment and the gym, and more.
- ◇ **Athletic Coach**– Coaches are needed for the range of athletic sports and ages in the Our Lady School and Parish. Athletics begin from Bitty Sports until 8th Grade. If you are interested in becoming a coach, please check the box on the enrollment form or Stewardship Intention Card and a representative from the committee will be in touch. Training, background checks, and Safe and Sacred certified coaches are mandated by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.
- ◇ **Boy & Girl Scouts**– Scouting has long been a vital character builder for youth in our country. Our parish encourages and supports scouting functions through youth ministry. Adult leaders and youth participants are always welcome to come forward and be a part of scouting in our parish community.